

THE  
METROPOLITAN.

MARCH, 1838.

LITERATURE.

NOTICES OF NEW WORKS.

*Misrepresentation. Scenes in Real Life, one of a Series of Tales on the Passions.* 3 vols.

"My aim has simply been to delineate character, and portray feeling; to make my scenes and actors natural; my story *possible*. Whether successfully or not, you, reader, must determine."

With these words, and others still more modest, the author of this agreeable story introduces herself and her subject. We can honestly say that she has done all, and something more than she here proposes. One of the best qualities of the work—and that this is a rare quality must be allowed by all readers of modern novels and romances—is, its perfect freedom from affectation. In this respect, and in some others, it reminds us of Miss Austin's admirable narratives. The story is also rich in good practical, moral lessons, not laid on as *preachments*, but rising naturally out of the events and the frame of mind induced by the circumstances and varying fortunes of the youthful heroine. Occasionally the cool measured tone of morality gives place to the warmer voice of religion—of a devotion mild, unobtrusive, and truly womanly. The great moral lesson inculcated is the necessity of checking the self-will and pride which great wealth and uninterrupted prosperity are apt to awaken in generous and noble natures—an old lesson, but one which cannot be too often repeated, and which is susceptible of an infinite variety of touching or striking illustration. The adventures of the heroine, Cecil Moubrey, an heiress and an orphan, though simple and natural, never going beyond the strict line of probability, are exceedingly interesting, and place her at times in positions the most trying that can be imagined, to a confiding, generous, and noble nature. For a long time she is constantly the victim of misconceptions and malicious misrepresentations; and after being partially spoilt by indulgence and the prospect of an immense fortune, she finds herself suddenly reduced, by craft and intrigue, to a state of poverty and absolute dependence. One of the leading incidents in her story will, at the first glance, startle novel readers; for her love, as delicate a passion as was ever conceived, is for one of her guardians—a class of men that have, time out of mind, laid under the bann and interdict of novel writers. We must hint, however, in justification of Miss Moubrey's taste, that the Lord St. Maur, though a guardian and a widower, is a young, hand-

some, high-minded, and altogether a very lovable person. Her other guardian, General Moubrey, comes nearer to the usual prescribed delineations of novelists and dramatists; but still he has traits peculiarly his own, and his character, like those of most of our author's personages, seems to have been carefully studied from nature. It is the meanness, weakness, obstinacy, and short-sightedness of this worldly-minded man, that throw a temporary cloud over the fortunes of the heroine. In a fit of disappointed ambition the general takes up the "old gentlemanly vice," and is only saved by death from becoming a thorough-paced miser—a very Elwes, or a Dance. The following lively dialogue will convey a notion of some of the minor miseries he inflicted upon his niece, whom previously, when ambition and a love of display were the hobbies he rode, he had accustomed to a most lavish expenditure of money.

" ' Cecil,' said General Moubrey, ' I don't altogether fancy this arrow-root; did you desire Mason to be careful about boiling it up?'

" ' I did, indeed, uncle; I spoke more than once to her.'

" ' Then she has'nt attended to you, that's all I can say; and if Mrs. Mason expects that I am to give her twenty guineas for such performances as this, she will find herself very much mistaken, I can tell her. Wretched stuff, indeed; can't have put in half the arrow-root, that's it, depend upon it; kept it for herself; servants are all cheats and thieves.'

" ' Will you try another bason?'

" ' No, my stomach's turned already.'

" ' Some broth, then?'

" ' Don't know but I might be able to manage a little broth; and you can make your luncheon off this.' ' And then,' thought he, ' she will not want so much dinner.'

" ' Thank you, my dear uncle, but I am not hungry; I have just eaten a biscuit.'

" ' Well, never mind, don't pull the bell; I dare say this is better for me than broth,' said the General, who could not make up his mind to the enormous waste of a bason of arrow-root. ' Here, take this key, and open the closet in my bed-room, you'll find a bottle of brandy there. Dr. B. advises me to take a little with my luncheon.'

" Miss Moubrey obeyed. ' Take care, for goodness' sake, pray think of what you are about; do you want to throw me into a fever? There—that will do; one spoonful more. Where are you going now, Cecil? Leave the bottle on the table; how can you tell I shall not want some more? And do sit still; that perpetual opening and shutting of the door is enough to drive one mad.'

" Cecil returned to her former station near the window. No two human faces are alike; no two people write alike; no two persons give a similar knock at a door; and, at this moment, there was a rap at the street door, which Cecil had often heard before, and never with much pleasure. The next minute a low, deep voice inquired for General Moubrey.

" ' Uncle, dear uncle,' she cried, starting up, ' your dressing-gown, your slippers; won't you change your dress?'

" ' Hey, what?' said the General, who thought his niece a little non compos. ' What in the name of wonder is the matter with the girl?'

" ' Lord St. Maur is below; pray put on your coat.'

" ' Who?' asked the general.

" ' Lord St. Maur.'

" ' And what brings him here, I should like to know? I'm sure I don't want to see him.'

" ' Shall I deny you?' cried Cecil; but it was too late, the earl was already in the room. And such a room! Reader, I do not often trouble you with descriptions, but this apartment I must endeavour to portray. General Moubrey occupied a house in the Promenade, the back drawing-room of which had been converted into his bed-room; for, as Lady Emily observed, he did not like moving about; and the folding-doors being partially unclosed, gave to view his coat hanging over the back of a chair, several pairs of boots and shoes, and other articles of clothing, scattered about the room, and a tumbled bed, which the lodging-house servant had not yet found time to arrange. The drawing-room itself was neither better nor

worse than lodging-house drawing-rooms usually are ; but as the general *did* the invalid, there were some additions, in the shape of phials and pill-boxes, which might have been dispensed with. His own appearance, too, in a faded buff dressing-gown, and slippers, (in one of which a large hole had been made, to favour a corn,) was far from being ornamental ; while the odour imparted to the atmosphere of the apartment by the cognac, was not exactly the perfume you expect to meet with in a lady's drawing-room.

" Cecil coloured with vexation, as she saw (or thought she saw) their unwelcome visitant cast a rapid, satirical glance, at the *comforts* and *elegances* by which they were surrounded ; and perhaps there *was* a wicked expression about his mouth, as, after the customary inquiries, he asked Miss Moubrey, ' if Cheltenham answered her expectations ? '

" ' No,' said the General, (who was a little deaf,) ' I can't say it does : drank the waters when first I came ; thought they did me more harm than good ; left them off now ; wish I'd not tried them at all ; paid my subscription for six months, and all for no purpose ; might as well have thrown my money into the sea.'

" ' You have, at any rate, a very cheerful situation ? '

" ' Yes, it's pleasant enough, for those who like the thing ; doesn't suit me ; too much noise and bustle ; monstrous dear, too. Would you believe it, my Lord ? they have the conscience to ask five guineas a week now, and it will be double in what is called the season ! '

" ' House-rent is always high at watering-places, I believe,' observed the Earl, not exactly knowing what to answer.

" ' But that's not the worst of it,' rejoined General Moubrey ; ' they have a confounded practice here of putting a servant into the house, whom you are expected to take, and the waste and extravagance of such a system is enough to drive a man out of his senses. All servants are bad enough ; but one who feels herself a fixture is a perfect mass of dishonesty, and everything else that's unprincipled : however, I've made up my mind, now, to put them all on board wages ; eight shillings a week for the women, and twelve for the men ; and if they don't like it, they may take themselves off, a set of idle, good-for-nothing knaves, who eat one out of house and home, and think of nothing from morning till night but how they can cheat and deceive you.'

" Again did Cecil colour with mortification, as she stole a glance at her titled guardian ; but his countenance gave no token of exultation. In fact, Lord St. Maur's errand to Cheltenham was not one of ill-natured triumph, and if a slight shade of malice had appeared on his first entrance, it had been entirely called up by the coldness of her reception ; and now, far from enjoying, he pitied her embarrassment. Something was said of business, and Cecil gladly seized the excuse for leaving the room."

\* \* \* \* \*

" Lord St. Maur's visit was at length concluded ; and Cecil and her uncle, being seated in the above-mentioned fly, they drove towards the High Street in place of taking a country direction, as they usually did.

" ' A very sensible man, that Lord St. Maur,' observed the General ; ' although I must acknowledge I don't agree with him in every respect. Young noblemen, however, have extravagant notions ; he'll be wiser when he is older, I dare say, and think, as I do, that a hundred and seventy pounds is a great deal for a young lady to spend in little more than nine months.'

" ' Indeed, my dear uncle, if I had had the slightest idea you would have been displeased, I should have been more prudent.'

" ' Well, well, there is no use in talking about it ; the money's gone, and had better be forgotten. And, now I think about it, I suppose you won't object to a little more ; eh, Cecil ? ' presenting her with two greasy five pound country notes, which were received with infinite satisfaction.

" They now stopped at a confectioner's, where General Moubrey ordered six cheesecakes, as many tartlets, a shape of jelly, and a pigeon pie, to be sent home immediately. Then they drove to the Plough, where Cecil's uncle alighted ; for his business respected wine, and he had still enough of gentleman-like feeling remaining to be choice in that article. In getting out, he desired the driver (for he had no livery servant,) to open the fly, an injunction which, after many jerks to the carriage and sohos to the horse, was at length obeyed, and Cecil exposed to public view. She, however, attracted very little notice ; for who could have guessed the plainly-dressed occupant of the hackney fly, who seemed so anxious to escape observation, was no other person than the beautiful heiress of Eldersleigh ?

" 'I hope I have the pleasure of seeing Miss Moubray well,' said William Beauclerc, who, with his arm linked in that of Lord St. Maur, approached the vehicle in which she sat. A favourable reply brought forth a long string of inquiries, as to her leaving Cheltenham, arrival in town, situation there, probable gaieties of the approaching season, &c. &c., in answering which poor Cecil crimsoned again with mortification, and right glad was she when her uncle's appearance put an end to the conversation.

" 'Flys are awkward carriages to enter, especially for stout, heavy people, to which description of persons General Moubray belonged; and being, also, rather inactive, he missed his footing, and might have had a very disagreeable fall but for the prompt intervention of Lord St. Maur's arm, and even Cecil could not but remark the look of real concern which accompanied this timely aid.

" 'Pray,' said General Moubray, when they were once more in motion, 'is that gentleman related to the Earl? They are very much alike.'

" 'His first cousin,—Mr. Beauclerc.'

" 'An admirer of yours, Cecil? [Young ladies always say no when such questions are asked.] I think he looked a little sweet upon you, though. Do you suppose they are together?'

" 'Most probably.'

" 'Then I wish I had thought of asking him too. Why did you not introduce me, Cecil?'

" 'Asked him, uncle? Asked him?' inquired Miss Moubray, an uncomfortable sort of apprehension stealing over her mind.

" 'Yes; asked him,' replied the General, testily.

" 'But to what?'

" 'To dinner, to be sure. Didn't I tell you that Lord St. Maur is coming to dine with us?'

" 'Lord St. Maur coming to dine with us? Oh, my dear uncle?'

" 'Yes,' replied he, 'Lord St. Maur is coming to dine with us. But what ails you, Cecil? Why, child, if it had been a rhinoceros, you could not have looked more frightened. What in the world is the matter with you? Are you ill?'

" 'No,' she said, 'I am not ill; but you know Lord St. Maur is accustomed to so much refinement and luxury, and our style of living is quite the reverse.'

" 'I really don't know what you mean, Miss Moubray!'

" 'Nay, uncle; lodging houses are always deficient in comforts.'

" 'Well,' said the General, 'I suppose Lord St. Maur has dined in a lodging house before; so tell the man to take another turn, and do you keep a sharp lookout, you know my eyesight is defective, and if you see Mr. Beauclerc, we will stop, and give him an invitation.'

" 'It wanted but this,' thought she, 'to complete my annoyance. Oh, how could my uncle be so injudicious?' And Cecil well nigh cried with vexation, as she contrasted the spacious dining-room, the snowy damask, the massive plate, the rich livery, French cuisine, foreign wines, forced dessert, and costly procelain, of Selwood Castle, with the niggardly repast dressed by a lodging-house cook, served on *blue and white* dishes, and with her uncle's man the sole attendant. The tartlets, too! Lord St. Maur eating tartlets! It would be worse, a thousand times worse, than the most unfortunate of Mrs. Henrietta's failures.

They reached home (as may be supposed) without hailing William Beauclerc; and then a new difficulty arose: what was Miss Moubray to wear? At Selwood a very recherchée toilette had prevailed, for Lord St. Maur was rather a connoisseur in ladies' dresses; but how ridiculous would such a style appear now! This point, however, was soon arranged; and Cecil, full of flutter and agitation, entered the drawing-room, when, to her inexpressible relief, she found that all her fears had been unnecessary: Lord St. Maur, aware, perhaps, on after consideration of the consequences of thus rashly engaging himself, had sent an excuse.

" 'So, Cecil,' said her uncle, 'I see you can dress yourself for a young man, though you don't think an old one worth the trouble. However, your labour's lost, for he doesn't come, after all: I can't say I consider it altogether gentlemanlike, but I suppose these great people fancy they may do as they please. Perhaps, too, it's better he doesn't dine with us; I dare say I should have been obliged to drink more wine than would have been good for me; the pigeon pie, you know, will keep very well till to-morrow. It's lucky I did not order griblet soup as well!'

An older and a crosser gentleman than this cross old General—Captain Death—at length relieves our heroine from this kind of persecution ; but, unfortunately, before dying, the General makes what disappointed relations call “a devil of a will.” His exit is thus described.

“ ‘ Uncle,’ said Cecil, one sabbath afternoon, shortly after Alice’s decease, ‘ as you are too unwell to drive out to-day, shall I not read to you ? You were, I thought, interested in this book.’

“ ‘ Pray excuse me, my dear Miss Moubray,’ interrupted Mrs. Johnson, ‘ but I must put my veto on such reading. Religion is, undoubtedly, very desirable in its proper place, and when not carried too far ; but I must say I think such books as you hold in your hand likely to do a great deal of mischief, especially to a person in General Moubray’s state of health. I believe I’m not at all deficient in real piety myself, and make a point of going to church *once* a day, at least ; but Methodism I do abhor, for I never knew one of your very good people who wasn’t at heart quite as bad, if not worse, than others. And I really believe you labour under a great mistake in considering so much strictness necessary.’

“ ‘ Are you quite charitable, Mrs. Johnson, in condemning *all* religious people, because you have met with some hypocrites ?

“ ‘ Well,’ said the General, ‘ you’ll never make a saint of me, Cecil ; so you may as well give up the attempt. I got such a surfeit of church-going when I was a boy at Eton, and afterwards at Oxford, that I took a disgust to the whole thing. Faith, I believe I haven’t seen the inside of a church since I left the University, excepting, indeed, when my brother was married ; and I quite agree with you, Mrs. Johnson, that religion is likely to do more harm than good.’

“ ‘ Besides,’ continued that lady, ‘ are we not told not to be righteous overmuch ? Now I must acknowledge, that though it is Sunday, I can’t see the harm of a little quiet enjoyment ; sick people should be amused ; they require to have their spirits raised, which, I am sure, such reading would never do ; and as General Moubray can’t go out this afternoon, we really ought to try and make the time pass pleasantly : so, General, I propose a game at backgammon.’

“ ‘ Thank you, my dear, kind friend,’ replied the infatuated old man, as the artful Mrs. Johnson busied herself in placing the men.

“ ‘ It was not thus,’ thought Cecil, whilst slowly ascending the stairs, ‘ my poor mother’s hours of suffering were cheered : how dreadful it appears, that one in my uncle’s state of health should be so indifferent to his best interests : Mrs. Johnson, it is quite clear, is using all her endeavours to keep him back. What can it be that gives her such an influence over him ?’

“ Cecil took up a book, and, placing herself in the window-seat, began reading. She had not, however, been long thus occupied, when her attention was attracted by a loud scream from below stairs, and a violent peal of the bell. In an instant she gained the room where she had left her uncle, and dreadful was the spectacle that presented itself, but which, in the horror of the moment, Cecil could not realize. A fearful sound fell upon her ear, but she knew not its full import ; an appalling vision rose upon her view, but conveyed no impression to her mind : she rushed forward, something cold met her touch, and then a dizziness came over her ; and sight, sense, hearing, feeling—all were gone.

“ For some time past, General Moubray had been liable to seizures, which he called nervous ; for, although always complaining, death, or even danger, were contingencies, whose bare idea he carefully excluded from his imagination. Yet thus was he called away ; and, O ! how sudden, how awful, was the summons : sudden, because, in spite of many warnings, he met it unprepared ! awful, since, even in death, his palsied hand still grasped the instrument of the unhallowed pastime wherewith he had dared to desecrate that holy day. He died as he had lived, a worldly, God-forgetting man !”

“ It was not until the third day after General Moubray’s demise that Cecil found herself equal to the exertion of writing a few lines to Lady Emily, informing her of the awful catastrophe ; and as her ladyship was not a very ready scribe, several days more had elapsed before an answer was received. It was exceedingly concise, and written rather in a congratulatory than condoling strain ; for Lady Emily considered the old general’s death the very best thing that could happen for his niece. Cecil was invited to return immediately to Selwood ; Lord St. Maur was at present absent, but hourly expected to come home ; and Louisa, who had been married

about three weeks, like the generality of people of her matrimonial experience, described herself, in her letters to her mother, as being perfectly happy. Such were the contents of Lady Emily Warham's epistle; but ere it reached its destination, another heavy blow had fallen on Cecil—she was disinherited!

“ During General Moubray's absence from England a new will had been made, by which, after some annuities and legacies, (one of five thousand pounds to his niece, payable upon her coming of age,) the whole of his property, landed and personal, was bequeathed to Mrs. Johnson.

“ Cecil was not covetous; but from her early youth she had been taught to consider herself the future mistress of Eldersleigh; as such, she had been educated—as such, introduced into society; and it was impossible not to feel the reverse which, from a high-born heiress, reduced to what was, in her estimation, little better than beggary. Nor could she see, without a pang, the estate and dwelling of her ancestors pass into the hands of strangers. Her uncle assigned no reason for his fickle injustice; but would it not, she feared, be thought that some misconduct on her part had given rise to this change of purpose? Even the name, which at his desire she had taken, would henceforth prove a constant source of mortification and ridicule. She felt herself degraded and disgraced, and it was with some difficulty she could bring her naturally proud spirit to bow, with any degree of submission, to so humiliating a dispensation. And her distress received additional poignancy from the entire want of respect evinced towards her uncle's memory by the worthless being whom he had so unjustly enriched.

“ On Mrs. Johnson, her husband, and brother, as sole executors of the will, devolved the arrangement for General Moubray's interment; and she, who was indebted to him for a landed estate of six thousand a year, besides funded property to a considerable amount, now begrimed (for the unworthy are seldom grateful) the trifling expense which would be incurred by conveying her benefactor's mortal remains to the burial-place of his forefathers. Cecil had been called upon to deliver up the diamonds, as they were, she was assured, part of the personal estate; and she hesitated not to comply with the demand; but she could not suffer the preparations for the funeral to proceed without a remonstrance; but in vain. Mrs. Johnson hated the being she had injured; she was glad, too, of an opportunity of retaliating the coldness with which she had been treated by Miss Moubray, and would not hear of any alteration from the original plan;—and without a stone to mark his final resting-place, with scarcely the appearance even of decent respect, the remains of the proud, ambitious, worldly-minded General Moubray, were consigned to the burial-ground of an obscure country village.

“ Ah! what a lesson for mortality is here! For many years, ambition had been the mainspring of his life; self-aggrandisement the object of his existence. For these General Moubray had sacrificed his political integrity; for these had braved the dangers of an unhealthy climate; and it was chiefly the irritation arising from disappointed pride which led to the commission of that act of base injustice by which he degraded and impoverished his brother's orphan. Such had been the career of this proud, selfish being; yet were his latter days without honour, and he died unrespected, unregretted, unmourned, save by his injured niece.

“ There are two graves in that churchyard lying together, and they are alike; the turf grows equally, the village children sport, on both; the careless footstep presses the springy sward, and marks no difference between the mound beneath which rests the high-born statesman, or that where sleeps the lowly peasant,—for the rich and poor are met together—the worldly-minded Moubray and the humble Alice are side by side. There is no difference now; but how will it be when the dead shall rise, the books be opened, and each shall render an account of the deeds done in the body, whether they be good, or whether they be evil; when every sin of omission and commission, every neglected duty, every heartless action, now, perhaps, forgotten or glossed over, shall set themselves in terrible array, provoking the justice of an offended God? Reader! in that dread hour, say, how will you and I appear?

“ As Mrs. Johnson, immediately on General Moubray's death, had established herself in his late residence, Cecil, it may be easily imagined, felt little desire to prolong unnecessarily her sojourn under the same roof. She resolved, therefore, although in a state of extreme weakness, to quit Cheltenham directly after the funeral, notwithstanding she must thus become the herald of her misfortunes; for Lady Emily's letter only reached Cheltenham on the morning of that painful occurrence. But previous to her departure some arrangements were necessary, which

brought forcibly to the mind of our heroine the melancholy change her fortunes had undergone. She was not entitled to the legacy until of age; and as General Mounbray's penurious habits had not decreased, she now found herself with but a few shillings to defray the expenses of the journey, and discharge some outstanding bills for mourning and other necessaries. She preferred parting with some of her least valuable trinkets to the degradation of borrowing from the Johnsons; and Mason was accordingly despatched to negotiate the sale. Cecil knew not the difference of buying and selling such articles, especially when the agent is one of Mason's description; and her amazement was excessive, when, in return for ornaments which might, originally, have cost upwards of a hundred pounds, she received thirty; and that sum being little more than sufficient to satisfy her tradespeople, another sacrifice was necessary. At length, after having all but emptied her jewel case, she was enabled to pay her bills, and set off for Selwood."

But this sudden change of fortune, instead of sinking, elevates and ennobles the young heroine: it gives her the opportunity of studying the world in its true, sober colours, it corrects her pride and the other defects of her character, or rather of her education; and after a long course of trials and disappointed hopes, she is rendered worthy of a happy and brilliant destiny.

---

*On Warming and Ventilating; with Directions for making and using the Thermometer Stove.* By NEIL ARNOTT, M.D.

Dr. Arnott has, in several instances, turned his ingenuity and science to the most useful and practical of purposes. His well-known invention of "the hydrostatic bed" has entitled him to the gratitude of suffering humanity, and to the proud title of a benefactor of his species. The little work now before us relates chiefly to a more recent invention of a domestic nature, by which houses are to be heated and kept wholesome at the same time at a minimum of expense. Philosophy has not yet devised—statesmen have never dreamed of any plan more calculated to add to human comfort and enjoyment. This is indeed, to use the language of the Benthamites, a direct contribution to the greater happiness of the greater number. The boon is more especially for the poor and the middling classes of society. We consider it as an imperative duty to direct the attention of our readers to this truly important invention, and we can answer, from personal experience, for the correctness of the following statements. But Dr. Arnott's high standing in his profession, his established reputation as a man of science and a benevolent, render any such assurance on our part altogether unnecessary. The doctor derives no benefit from the invention, except the noble gratification of doing good—he makes it public property at once, just as he did the hydrostatic bed, from which, had he been so inclined, he might have derived a profit of many thousands of pounds. The stove, like the bed, is unprotected by patent or monopoly of any kind; anybody may make it, and it is so simple in its construction as to offer no difficulties to the least scientific of workmen.

Before proceeding to the extracts relating immediately to the "Thermometer Stove," we should mention that the little book before us contains many hints applicable in all cases, and with all kinds of grates, stoves, or flues, to the proper ventilating of apartments. Than this there is scarcely anything more essential to health; and yet few things are more generally neglected or misunderstood. In the comfortable houses of England—comfortable *par excellence*—the principles upon which a constant supply of fresh wholesome air depends are too often sacrificed to old-womanly prejudices—the venerable relics of our grandmothers.

Dr. Arnott thus recapitulates the disadvantages attending the Dutch stove and the common open fire:—

" The stove saves the waste of warm air, which, in open fires, passes between the fire and the mantel-piece, while by the surface of its body and flue receiving not only the direct heat of the combustion, but also of the intensely heated air rising from the fire, it gives out to the room much of the heat, which, in a common open fire, would at once ascend the chimney. \* \* There is, however, one disadvantage peculiar to the close stove, which countervails nearly all its good qualities, namely, that its very heated surface of iron acts upon the air which comes in contact with it, so as to impair exceedingly the air's purity and fitness for respiration. \* \*

" The imperfection of the open fire, and of the close stoves, having been strongly felt, other means were eagerly sought, and are now extensively used; namely, 1. Steam admitted to pipes or other vessels placed in the apartments to be warmed; 2. Hot water similarly admitted and distributed and circulating back to the boiler to be heated again; and 3. Heated air prepared in a separate place, and then distributed by various means over the building to be warmed."

He meets the imperfections of the Dutch stove and common grate by proposing his own self-regulating stove, the superiority of which consists in the power of so regulating the afflux of the air to the coal or fuel, as to consume no more fuel than is necessary to heat the apartment to the requisite degree, and consequently, of preserving the fire, at all times of the day and night, at one uniform degree of heat, without the aid of servants and without waste. By proper management a fire lit in it at the beginning of winter will burn on till the beginning of summer, requiring nothing more than a supply of fuel once every twenty-four or twenty-six hours, and the expense of this constant unintermitting fire will be found not to exceed one penny per day!

" What chiefly surprises a stranger in this new stove, is the very small quantity of air required to support the combustion which warms a large room; the whole might enter by an opening of half an inch diameter, and the quantity of air or smoke which passes into the chimney, is of course proportionably small. These facts at once suggest how small the consumption of fuel must be, as that depends on the quantity of air entering, how perfect the combustion of the fuel must be where so little is expended, and how completely the heat produced in the combustion must be turned to account. The combustion is so perfect, because the fuel is surrounded by thick fire-brick, which confines the heat so as to maintain intense ignition; and the saving of heat is proved by the rapidly diminishing temperature of the flue, detected by a hand, passed along it from the stove. During the winter 1836-7, which was very long and severe, my library was warmed by the thermometer stove alone. The fire was never extinguished, except for experiment, or to allow the removal of pieces of stone which had been in the coal, and this might have been prevented by making the grate with a moveable or shifting bar. The temperature was uniformly from 60° to 63°. I might have made it as much lower or higher as I liked. The quantity of coal used (Welsh stone coal) was, for several of the colder months, six pounds a day—less than a pennyworth—or at the rate of half a ton in the six winter months. This was a smaller expense than of the wood needed to light an ordinary fire, therefore the saving was equal to the whole amount of the coal-merchant's ordinary bill. The grate, or fire-box, fully charged, held a supply for twenty-six hours. \* \* \* Many strangers coming into my room did not suspect that I had fire in the stove, for it was used generally as a table for a book-stand. They thought the agreeable warmth of the room came from the kitchen, or some neighbouring room. I believe that persons must themselves feel, to be able truly to conceive the charm, in dreary winter, of knowing, wherever they be, in cold, or rain, or snow, that a perfect and unvarying summer room always awaits their return home."

The following is an abridged summary of the presumed advantages of the stove.

" *Economy of Fuel.*—A common open fire wastes seven-eighths of the heat produced. This stove saves or puts to use very nearly the whole, because, first, it does not allow the air which has fed the combustion to escape, until deprived of nearly all the heat; and secondly, it does not allow any of the warm air of the room, except the little which feeds the fire, to escape through the chimney.

"Uniform temperature in all parts of the room, and through the day.—There is no scorching on one side, and freezing on the other, as often with a common fire.—There can be no draughts in the room, nor layer of cold air on the floor.

"The Stove is always alight.—This peculiarity, next to the saving of fuel, if not even before it, may be deemed a leading characteristic or advantage of the stove, from which many minor advantages flow. Its importance is perceived by reflecting on the disadvantages of common interrupted fires, as—the trouble and expense, with smoke, dust, and noise, of lighting the fire, &c.

"It is because the stove is ever alight, that the temperature of the place warmed by it is so uniform, and that so much fuel is saved. More fuel would be wasted in one morning hour, by the attempt suddenly to raise the temperature of a room which had become cold in the night, than by keeping the fire burning moderately all the night.

"No smoke can come from it, for the only passage is the small opening by which air enters to feed the fire, and in this, if desired, there may be a flap or valve allowing air to enter freely, but not to return.

"Obedience to command.—The screw of the regulator as certainly increases or diminishes the temperature, as the screw of a lamp varies the light; and by having a thermometer accurately made and graduated, the very degree of heat required in any art—as in enamel painting, &c can be obtained with certainty."

"In brief," says the doctor, "its advantages may be thus classified:—Economy of Fuel—Economy of Original Expense—Economy of Service—Economy of Comfort—Economy of Health and Life—Economy of Furniture and Property generally—and Economy of Time."

It may be proper to mention that, though any kind of coal may be used, the "Welsh stone coal" is decidedly the best suited to the stove.

Another important hint is—that the "Thermometer Stoves" do not cost much money!—not more—nay, scarcely so much as a good open grate and fire-irons. They are to be seen at Messrs. Bramahs, Cottam, and Hallen's; May and Morritt's; and at Mr. Huxleys, Castle Street, Long Acre. It is a pity that so few persons should have *felt* the benefit of them (both as regards comfort and economy) during this long and severe winter.

---

*The Modern Process for the Preservation of all Alimentary Substances; by which they retain their Native Purity and Essential Qualities in any Climate, and for several Years; and by means of which may be served, at a few Minutes' notice, a Complete and Exquisite Dinner.* By HENDERSON WILLIAM BRAND, Author of "The Complete Modern Cook."

As we are treating of useful and domestic matters we will recommend this cheap, excellent little book. As far as our knowledge goes, it seems fully to answer the object proposed, which is to show how, by a simple process which any body may understand, we may always have in readiness, and in perfection, food of every description, without the risk of its being in any way "worse for keeping." To those who go down to the deep in great ships, and make long voyages, such instructions are invaluable, as every body will feel that has lived three months upon salt junk, and consumptive chickens, or melancholy ducks converted by the spray into sea-gulls. It has been our own fortune to sail in ships of various nations, and we cannot help saying, that the English are those in which these matters are least understood. A Frenchman or an Italian, with a few preserved vegetables, a little dried meat, and some macaroni, will dish you up a good wholesome dinner, light and digestible, anywhere; but, oh! the horrors to a sensitive stomach of salt beef, salt pork, sea-pies

(three-deckers), and split-pea soup. By attention to some of these things, the health of the poor sailors in the royal navy has been greatly improved of late years ; but the attention has not been carried far enough. We are convinced that by proper management a constant supply of fresh, wholesome food, might be procured, even at a reduced rate of expense. Some of the hints in the present volume might be serviceable in this direction, but the more especial object of Mr. Brand is to extend to private families, and to remote country-seats, delicacies not to be obtained far from large towns at certain seasons of the year, without much time, trouble, and expense ; and to place at command, almost at a minute's notice, and at all times, a variety of agreeable and wholesome food. The author states, " that in treating this subject, he has not presumed to undertake the task as a mere theorist, but that he came to it, backed by his own actual experience, and confirmed in his ideas by long practice and unflinching success."

*Tales and Sketches of the Scottish Peasantry.* By ALEXANDER BE-  
THUNE, Labourer.

Considered merely as literary productions, the tales in this volume possess a high degree of interest, and they become doubly interesting from the circumstances under which they have been produced. We are not much given to wonder-seeking, and, generally speaking, are not very anxious to pet or patronize self-taught miracles, poetical shoemakers, basket-makers, milk-women, or day-labourers—and this chiefly because we are convinced that a certain facility in writing is of no difficult attainment in these days, when books, if not knowledge, are scattered in all directions, and made accessible to the poorest—and still more, because we are convinced, in the larger majority of cases, that it is far better for these individuals to remain shoe-makers, basket-makers, milk-women, and day-labourers, than to embark on the always perilous and uncertain career of professional authorship. Albeit, they may start, rejoicing in the patronage of some wondering Lady Augusta, or Hannah More, but Alexander Bethune comes recommended both to our heart and head, by the peculiarity of his circumstances, his manly scorn of flattery and patronage-hunting, and the high intellectual powers he displays, and upon these grounds we venture most cordially to recommend his little volume. We cannot make a better appeal to our readers than by quoting from the frank and unaffected introductory notice.

" Like many others of his class, he may be said to have derived little advantage from the instructions of masters, his education having been limited to four or five months' tuition at a subscription school during his sixth year ; his ability as a writer, therefore, in whatever estimation it may be held, may fairly be denominated ' self-acquired.' His parents, from ill-health and other causes, were very poor, and unable to apprentice him to any trade, so he betook himself, at the age of fourteen, to the humble occupation of a labourer. By this species of employment, so ill-suited to that early period of life, his growth was stunted, and his bodily energies were impaired. Notwithstanding these disadvantages, he continued to support his parents ; while the few hours of leisure he could command were devoted to reading such books as chance threw in his way.

" His own circumstances gradually became comparatively easy ; but while employed in blasting a rock in the year 1829, he met with a severe accident, having been blown into the air by the explosion of the charge, and dreadfully lacerated, which confined him to bed for nearly six months. He then returned to his avocations ; but again, about three years afterwards, he met with a similar accident. On this occasion another indivi-

dual was engaged along with him in driving down the rubbish above a charge, when the power ignited, and the poor fellow, being dashed against a ledge of rock by the explosion, died in a few hours afterwards. The subject of our present notice lost an eye, and did not recover the sight of the other for a considerable time. It was during the latter period of his sufferings, while his eye was too weak to admit of his reading, and his hands too feeble for work, that he first began to write, merely to beguile time, and divert his mind from his bodily anguish. The result has been the completion, at various intervals, of the following "annals of the poor." He recovered slowly from the effects of his second misfortune; and on this, as on a former occasion, his little resources were completely exhausted. Some aged relatives were in a great measure dependent on his exertions; and, in the beginning of 1833, he had, as it were, to begin the world anew, with a debilitated constitution, and a premature appearance of old age. But though his health has been injured, and his strength impaired, he still continues to maintain a hardy independence, earning his bread with the sweat of his brow, and limiting his wants to his ability of supplying them."

All this is in the right tone, and the following extract shows that the author has thought of the sources of an honourable literary patronage, and has come to a right conclusion.

"In offering these tales to the world, I have sought no patronage from dukes, or lords, or even literary men; while I should be happy to deserve the good opinion of these, it is to the general reader, be he peer or peasant, and to a candid and generous public, that I consign them,—believing, as I do, that they are the best, and ultimately the only patrons whose patronage is worth having."

The tales are "The Deformed," "The Fate of the Fairest," "The Decline and Fall of the Ghost," "Three Hanselmondays," "Margaret Clinton," "The Covenanter's Grave," "The Stranger," and "Disinterestedness." They are short, vigorous, original, and full of meaning, showing that the author has been rather an observer of other men's deeds, than a copyist of other men's writings. Some short pieces of verse, introduced here and there, are marked with deep feeling, and are not deficient in the graces of composition. There is not one of them but is better than anything ever produced by Joseph Blackett or Thomas Dermody; but Blackett and Dermody lived in days when good poetry was a scarce commodity, and when people were mad after prodigies, and self-taught geniuses, and all that sort of thing, and they were patronized and puffed for a while by lords and ladies and knights-baronets. Poor Blackett, had, however, the merit of being a modest well-conducted young man; but a greater scamp than Dermody, even according to the showing of his partial and purblind biographer, never escaped Newgate and the hulks. But Mr. Raymond saw scintillations, coruscations, aspirations, genius, in all these freaks; and the dangerous prejudice had not yet evaporated—that, to be a true poet, it was necessary to be a bit of a drunkard and vagabond.

---

*Narrative of the Residence of the Persian Princes in London, in 1835, 1836; with an Account of their Journey from Persia and subsequent Adventures.* By JAMES BAILLIE FRASER, Esq. 2 vols.

This is a sort of *serious Hajji Baba* in England, not sparkling with wit and creaming over with fun and humour, like Mr. Morier's exquisite *jeu d'esprit*, but sober and matter-of-fact; and containing, no doubt, a faithful representation of the impression made by English sights and English society upon the newly-imported Orientals—correct, at least, so far

as the impressions could be conveyed in words and outward demonstrations. Though the light gossiping book is amusing enough, we cannot say that the sons of the mighty schah are half so much to our taste as the witty barber of Ispahan. The whole philosophy of the thing is of course the same in both cases. We are not quite sure that it would be decorous in ordinary cases for the gentlemen appointed to wait upon them to put foreign princes, the guests of the country, into books almost as soon as they have left our shores ; but Persian princes and Osmanlys, now-a-days, are small "deer," and seem on all hands to be considered as fair game. As a mehmendar, cicerone, or guide, Mr. Fraser appears to have been indefatigable—a shining light and exemplar for all persons that may hereafter be charged with similar duties. As long as these scions of eastern royalty were here it was "up in the morning early" and to bed in the "small hours :" balls, routs, menageries, masquerades, parks, reviews, operas, docks, dinners,—nothing came amiss to him ; he must have done work enough to walk half a dozen Highland chairmen or Edinburgh caddies off their legs, and great must have been the loss of flesh attendant thereon. His labours, however, have ended in a book which will pleasantly beguile a winter evening, and which contains some useful information concerning the present state of affairs in Persia.

---

*Utopia : or the Happy Republic, a Philosophical Romance.* By SIR THOMAS MORE. *To which is added, The New Atlantis.* By LORD BACON. *With a Preliminary Discourse, containing an Analysis of Plato's Republic, &c., and copious Notes.* By J. A. ST. JOHN, Esq.

Everybody speaks of these two works, the productions of two chancellors, particularly of the Utopia, which has been for ages a by-word and a standing comparison with politicians, both fledged and unfledged, yet hardly anybody reads them, or knows their true gist. In parliament and in printed books of no small pretensions, we have seen times innumerable such references made to the Utopia, as proved beyond a doubt that the speakers and writers were wholly ignorant of that remarkable work. This ignorance is scarcely excusable even in the country gentlemen ; for though it was originally written in Latin, (in a beautiful latinity, by the way,) there are two translations of it in good plain English ; the one produced about the year 1526, in Sir Thomas More's own time, and the other nearly two centuries later, by no less eminent a writer than Bishop Burnet. It is true, however, that the first of these translations may be classed among *Libri Rarissimi*, and that the second is out of print, and not to be found in all family or circulating libraries. We trust that now Mr. Rickerby has brought it out (Burnet's version) in a neat and convenient shape, and at a very moderate price, that our legislators, public writers, public speakers, and, indeed, the public in general, will avail themselves of so good an opportunity of removing their ignorance in this respect, and that the treatise will be read and inwardly digested by all reading and thinking people. It richly deserves all this. Many a neglected author of the olden time deserves the like attention ; and we hope that this intelligent publisher will continue his process of disinterment and resuscitation, and the more so, because the few volumes of the kind he has put forth, are edited in a very respectable manner, and are so cheap as to make them generally accessible. The rapid production of new books has but too strong a tendency to keep the good old ones out of sight and out of mind. Most persons will be astonished, as Mr. St. John himself seems to have been, at the daring boldness of the political speculations of the chancellor of Henry VIII. We are

not disposed to believe that some of these speculations would be otherwise than dangerous in practice, but they all merit consideration as the thoughts of a great mind. In the common course of argument a twofold use may be made of them—the Conservative may quote them as proofs that there is nothing new in modern schemes of reform or democratic aspirations ; and the Reformer may quote them as good evidence to prove that his doctrines have antiquity and a great name in their favour. For ourselves, we believe that the great author merely meant them as speculations calculated to excite the then dormant spirit of inquiry,—probably to weaken in its seed or root that monstrous doctrine, the divine right of kings, which, though it did not bear its pernicious fruit till a century later, under the Stuarts, certainly began to germinate under the Tudors—a race to whom, after all, and in spite of the glories of Queen Bess, the liberties of England were but little indebted. We notice a little circumstance which will not appear altogether uninteresting or unimportant to the lovers of literary or political history. Bishop Burnet said, that he could not imagine how Sir Thomas More came to be called Sheriff of London in the title-page of *Utopia*, seeing that in all the printed catalogues of sheriff's his name was not to be found. Now it has been ascertained since Burnet's time, and by several authors, (Horace Walpole among the number,) that More was not sheriff but under-sheriff of London, in the twenty-eighth year of his age, when he had been "recently marked with the displeasure of the crown," and when his literary ardour was in full activity. Mr. St. John, as editor, ought to have remarked this circumstance ; he might also have bestowed a curious note or two, interesting to the general reader, in introducing Bacon's splendid fragment, the *New Atlantis*. Honest Rawley, whose address to the reader is reprinted, was a singular character. Like Bacon's servant, Thomas Bushell, he evidently took his great friend for a mighty great conjuror, and was quite incapable of comprehending his projects or visions for the promotion of human happiness by means of political innovation. According to the gossiping Aubrey, Bacon used to complain bitterly of the dulness and misconceptions of his servants and amanuenses, and to say that nobody that helped him in his literary labours understood him—except Mr. Hobbes.

"The Lord Chancellor," says Aubrey, "loved to converse with Mr. Hobbes. He assisted his lordship in translating several of his essays into Latin : one, I well remember, is that of the greatness of cities : the rest I have forgot. His lordship was a very contemplative person, and was wont to contemplate in his delicious walks at Gorhambury, and dictate to Mr. Bushell, or some other of his gentlemen that attended him, with ink and paper, ready to set down presently his thoughts. His lordship would often say that he better liked Mr. Hobbes's taking down his thoughts, than any of the others, because *he* understood what he wrote, which the others, not understanding, my lord would many times have a hard task to make sense of what they wrote."

In one of his now scarce and forgotten mineralogical tracts, in which he shows how confident he was of discovering the art of making gold, Thomas Bushell alludes to the *New Atlantis* as to something likely to assist him in his pursuit. He even pretends to quote words, which would make one believe that Bacon himself wrote this treatise solely in an alchemical sense.

"Mr. Bushell," said the lord chancellor to me, "I have dealt with you in your naked simplicity, as God did with Adam in Paradise, when he gave him so large a royalty over the garden, with so small an exception as the interdicted tree ; for I have made you secretary of all my mineral studies, no ways restraining you in the practice ; only, I prohibit your arrogating to yourself the honour thereof, if it should prove fortunate ; and the employing such treasures as shall be gained thereby, any way which shall not conduce to the raising, qualifying, and endowing of my Solomon's house, modelled in my *NEW ATLANTIS*."

*The Poetical Works of Thomas Pringle : with a Sketch of his Life, by LEITCH RITCHIE.*

When Thomas Pringle left this world, he scarcely left behind him a kinder-hearted or a better man. We do not hazard an assertion upon light grounds ; we knew him well, and know those who had been acquainted with him from his youth upwards—some who associated with him in his college days at Edinburgh, some who met him in the wilds of Africa, others who were his intimates during the last seven years of his life in London, when he was engaged in literary pursuits, and the important duties of secretary to the Anti-Slavery Society. We never knew a man more generally respected, and in the breasts of those who best knew him, admiration and warm affection were mingled with respect. An author—by ill-merited necessity, almost a professional one—he had not a single enemy among authors ; his frankness, his perfect freedom from all jealousy and affectation, his constant readiness to serve his still less fortunate brothers of the pen, his never-failing good-nature, completely took the sting from a jealous and irritable tribe ; and we believe there never was one of the “ Legion ” that, either by tongue or pen, said an ill-natured thing of poor Pringle.\* Such a man should not be allowed to pass from us without a record ; and, in addition to the warm praise we give Mr. Leitch Ritchie for his chief motive, which is that of contributing towards the support of a widow left almost without any provision, we are glad, in a mere literary point of view, that he has written this memorial of his friend.

The life of Pringle was in many respects more varied and adventurous than that of the generality of literary men. His misfortunes—and though he bore them with a cheerful spirit, he had many during his life—began at a very early period. He was the son of an honest border farmer, and was born at Blaiklaw, otherwise called Easterstead, on the 5th of January, 1789.

“ ‘ I was the third child,’ says he, in an epistolary fragment found among his papers, ‘ of a family of four sons and three daughters, which my father had by his first marriage. It is said that I was a remarkably healthy infant ; but when I was only a few months old, I met with an accident in the nurse’s arms, by which my right limb was dislocated at the hip-joint. The nurse, unfortunately, concealed the incident at the time, and though it was speedily discovered that something was wrong with the limb, and I was carried to Kelso for medical advice, the nature of the injury was not ascertained until a very considerable period had elapsed, and it was no longer practicable to reduce the dislocation. I was thus rendered lame for life.

“ ‘ My early reminiscences reach back to a period when I must have been about three years old, or little more. I remember of being carried to Kelso when about that age, and being tormented by doctors examining my limb, and making me wear a red morocco boot, with steel bandages to keep it in some prescribed position. These appliances were of no advantage, and were, ere long, superseded by a pair of crutches. The latter I soon learned to use with such ease and adroitness, that, during my boyhood and youth, (when I generally enjoyed robust health,) I felt but little incommoded by my lameness. Nanny Potts, the old nurse in whose hands the accident had happened to me, never forgave herself for being the unintentional cause of my misfortune, and to make amends, indulged me, so far as she could, in every caprice. I consequently ruled her with despotic sway, and soon became sufficiently wayward and headstrong to require strict discipline on the part of my parents to prevent me from being quite spoiled.

“ ‘ When I was about five years of age, I accompanied my two eldest brothers, William and John, daily to school. We rode, all three, on one stout galloway, the foremost guiding our steed, and the other two holding fast each by the jacket of the

\* The abuse introduced on one or two occasions in the “ Quarterly ” and “ Blackwood ” was of a political kind, not proceeding from any personal feeling.

one before him. We carried our noon-tide meal, consisting usually of a barley bannock and a bottle of milk, in a wallet; and my crutches were slung, one on each side to the pommel of the long-padded saddle (called *sodds*) on which we sat. The road——”

In his boyhood he delighted in gardening, fishing, and working with mechanical tools. “In the last-mentioned employment,” says Mr. Ritchie, “he exhibited considerable dexterity; and the same natural turn which enabled him to make a fishing-rod out of a crutch, found exercise, in after years, in supplying his lonely hut with at least substitutes for the conveniences of civilized life.” We have heard him more than once, when seated in his comfortable little parlour in London, describe, with great glee and humour, how, when he was in Africa, he not only built his own house, but made nearly every article of furniture in it, with his own hands. And sometimes he would say, when labouring at an article for a magazine or an annual, “Faith this is not half such pleasant work as carpentering.”

“In his fourteenth year he was sent to the grammar-school of Kelso, to learn the rudiments of Latin; and three years after he went to Edinburgh, to complete his studies at the university. Thither he was accompanied by Robert Story, a boy about his own age, now the Rev. Robert Story, minister of Roseneath, on the Clyde. The two lads lodged in the same room, where for a long time, amidst the novelties of a capital, they still continued to ‘remember their Creator in the days of their youth.’ They performed religious service regularly, as they had been accustomed to see it done at home, taking the duty alternately. The sabbath they kept holy, as they had been taught to do; avoiding so much as opening a book on that day which was not of a directly religious character. Pringle greatly admired Dr. M’Crie, and usually attended public worship at his meeting-house.

“‘Among the remembrances of the first evening we spent together,’ says his friend, ‘it may deserve notice, that, on comparing our attainments in literature, he mentioned, with peculiar delight, Park’s ‘Travels’ and Campbell’s ‘Pleasures of Hope,’ quoting that fine passage in the latter which ends with the line,

‘And Freedom shrieked when Kosciuzko fell.’

It must have seemed very unlikely, at that time, that a young man suffering from incurable lameness should become a traveller; but the congenial enthusiasm which the adventures of the African traveller awakened in his mind, peculiarly fitted him for assisting in laying the foundations of a new colony in the wilds of Southern Africa; while, in his admiration of Campbell’s verse, may be traced the germinating love of freedom and abhorrence of oppression, which became the ruling passion and determining motive of his future life.”

“‘My first impressions of his mind and heart,’ continues this same friend, ‘were deepened by every opportunity I had during a long friendship and confidential intercourse with him. His warmth of affection, his ingenuousness, and his integrity were, at the very commencement of our fellowship, as truly revealed to me in his sayings and doings, as if I had known him for years. There was such a reality in the beautiful *morale* of his nature, that conveyed to you at once the impression of his being worthy of confidence and love. When at college he was of studious habits, and attended diligently to the duties of his different classes; and although he did not make a brilliant figure, his appearance was altogether respectable, when examined by the professor. He did not, however, although studious, extend, as he might have done, his classical knowledge. His readings during the hours not engaged in the preparation of the lessons of the day, consisted chiefly in the *belles lettres* of his mother tongue. He was much more conversant with English poetry and criticism at the time, than students of his standing generally were; and he had not been many months in town (Edinburgh) before he assisted in organizing a small weekly club, where his general attainments were available, either in himself producing, or in criticising, an essay in prose or in verse, written by the members in turn. His habits were exceedingly correct, as his thoughts and feelings were most pure; while, amid the trials of an academic life, his devotional bias lost little of its power. During the whole session, alternately with his companion, he conducted worship in his apartment, after the fashion of devout Scottish families; thus reverently observing

the practice of his fathers. On Sundays, he generally attended public worship in the meeting-house of Dr. M'Crie, the well-known biographer of Knox and Melville. The session closed, he returned, with an increased admiration and love, to the scene of his nativity. I never knew any one who had a more intense delight in looking at nature. He seemed to find a life and loveliness in everything,—to have a capacity of sympathy with all the varieties of beauty and grandeur. Although lame, he had a passion for ascending hills. The top of Hounam-law was to him especially consecrated ground, from which he could command such prospects of the traditional country, of the legends of which he was now acquiring rapidly the knowledge. He reluctantly left the country for the succeeding term, during which his habits were but little changed. To the country again returning, he made many a pilgrimage to classical spots in Teviot Dale. One of these, to St. Mary's Loch, in which I accompanied him, formed the subject of a poem afterwards published in the *Poetic Mirror*, under the title of the 'Autumnal Excursion.'

About the year 1809, he obtained a situation as clerk to the Commissioners on the Public Records of Scotland—a miserable place, but the best that could be procured for a man of worth and high intellect, but without great friends to push, or parliamentary interest to prop him. After publishing some fugitive pieces, he wrote in 1816 a descriptive poem, which attracted the attention, and procured for him the friendship of Walter Scott. Soon after this he gave up his place in the Record Office, and devoted himself, for a time, to literature as a profession.

"Early in the following year, 1817, the 'Edinburgh Monthly Magazine' appeared, in which Pringle's most important contribution was an article on the Gipsies, the materials for which were chiefly furnished by Scott. This kindness on the part of the Minstrel (then the Great Unknown) was the more remarkable, as he had intended, before hearing of Pringle's undertaking, to make use of the papers for an article of his own in the 'Quarterly Review.' It may be conceived that our friend was gratified in no common degree; particularly, as he remarks, 'since Scott's kindness and attention throughout were spontaneously conferred, without any solicitation on my part.' In the same number were papers by Mr. Lockhart, 'a young advocate,' Mr. Wilson, Mr. Neil, Mr. Cleghorn, the Rev. T. Wright, Dr. Brewster, James Hogg, and others.

"About the same time, he undertook the editorship of the 'Edinburgh Star' newspaper, for which, besides having the responsibility of providing the whole materials, and superintending the necessary arrangements, he wrote the leading article twice a week. This drudgery, together with that of the magazine, reduced him to what he calls 'a lamentable state of slavery,'—which was nothing lightened by a second magazine being soon upon his hands. The former periodical, falling into the hands of new proprietors, became 'Blackwood's Magazine'; the latter was 'Constable's,' of which he undertook the joint editorship."

All this labour brought little grist to the mill—Pringle's truly honest Whig politics did not suit the then most Ultra-Tory atmosphere of Edinburgh—"Blackwood's Magazine," upon which his support chiefly depended, became the lion rampant of the Tory party, and Pringle giving up all connexion with it, and finding that his other works would leave him to starve, as a *pis aller*, went back to his old seat in the Register Office. But he had now been for some time a married man. Let his own burning words express the miseries of his situation.

"'It is sufficient to say,' writes he to a friend, 'that my present occupation is inadequate to the support of my family in the most moderate way I can devise; I see little or no prospect of materially improving my circumstances in this country; and I have already incumbrances on my shoulders which threaten every day to become heavier, and at last to overwhelm me in hopeless debt. Now this is a state of life the most intolerable that can well be imagined, and which one must experience fully to estimate. It paralyses the very blood and heart of man; and I cannot and will not endure it, while a prospect remains of extricating myself by any exertion, or sacrifice, that can be made with honour and a good conscience.'

In this frame of mind he fixed his thoughts upon emigration to South Africa.

“ A land of climate fair and fertile soil,  
Teeming with milk and wine and waving corn,  
Invites from far the venturous Briton’s toil:  
And thousands, long by fruitless cares foreworn,  
Are now across the wide Atlantic borne,  
To seek new homes on Afric’s southern strand :  
Better to launch with them than sink forlorn  
To vile dependance in our native land ;  
Better to fall in God’s than man’s unfeeling hand !”

The poet and his wife did not go alone. His beautiful nature shows itself in the following passage, which is an extract from his “ African Sketches,” a book which is well known, and which deserves to be better known.

“ It may be proper here to notice, that I had two distinct objects in view in emigrating to the Cape. One of these was to collect again into one social circle, and establish in rural independence, my father’s family, which untoward circumstances had broken up and begun to scatter over the world. To accomplish this emigration to a new colony was indispensable. My father had been a respectable Roxburghshire farmer ; and all his sons (five in number) had been bred to the same profession, except myself. The change of times, however, and the loss of capital, had completely overclouded their prospects in our native country ; and, therefore, when the government scheme of colonizing the unoccupied territory at the Cape was promulgated, I called their attention to that colony, and offered to accompany them, should they determine to proceed thither as settlers. After maturely weighing the advantages of the Cape, as compared with other British colonies, they made their election, and empowered me to apply on their behalf to the Colonial Department.\* As it was required by the government plan that every party should comprise at least ten adult males, one family related to my wife, and two or three other respectable individuals, were associated with us. And thus our little band of twenty-four souls was made up ; consisting of twelve men, including three farm servants, six women, and six children.

“ My personal views were different from those of my relatives. I had received a collegiate education ; and had been employed for about a dozen years in the service of his Majesty’s Commissioners on the Ancient Records of the Kingdom, in the office of my esteemed friend Mr. Thomson, Deputy Clerk-Register of Scotland. I had also been recently engaged to a certain extent in literary concerns ; having been one of the original projectors and editors of ‘ Blackwood’s Edinburgh Magazine ;’ (then a *liberal*, though not a *party*, journal;) and afterwards of ‘ Constable’s Magazine. My connexion with these journals, however, had rather been prejudicial than otherwise to my views in life, and had given me, moreover, a decided aversion to literature, or at least to periodical literature, as a profession. Under these circumstances, I determined to embark my own fortunes with those of my relatives in the government scheme of South-African colonization. But as neither my pecuniary circumstances nor my previous habits rendered it advisable for me to locate myself as an agricultural settler, I trusted to obtain, through the recommendation of powerful friends, some appointment suitable to my qualifications in the civil service of the colony, and probably in the newly settled district.”

On the 15th of May 1820, poor Pringle and his family party landed in Algoa Bay, whence they proceeded by land to their location, which was a tract of country on the Lynden, one of the smaller branches of the Great Fish River. Here the poet remained a little more than two years, during which he officiated both as doctor and minister. When the little colony had taken good root, and was thriving, he left it to go to Cape Town in search of an employment—for with all his energy, he found

\* “ One of my brothers had previously emigrated to the United States and settled there. Another brother did not get his affairs arranged in time to accompany the party, but followed us out in 1822.”

that a man upon crutches was not in his proper element on a sheep farm in Africa. Here it was the old story! among all the places in the gift of government, nothing could be found for Pringle but the post of government librarian, with the miserable pittance of seventy-five pounds per annum attached to it. As he had studied his politics in a very different school from that of the late Lord Charles Somerset, who was then governor of the Cape, he was not only prevented from editing the government gazette, but hindered in other projects wherewith he hoped to obtain a comfortable livelihood. We take our account on his own evidence, but so perfect is our reliance on his truthfulness and thorough honesty, that we can scarcely consider it with the doubts which usually arise out of an *ex parte* statement. We can only *just* conceive that in a few instances Pringle's honest zeal may have outrun his discretion, and that by his enthusiasm in the cause of the native African tribes, he may have alarmed the interests and jealousies of other persons besides Lord Charles. Without enthusiasm no great measure was ever carried, yet such a state of mind must betray the wisest and the best into occasional indiscretion. To pursue the story, Pringle opened a school in Cape Town, and soon had as many pupils as he could attend to. He was then encouraged to attempt the establishing an independent periodical work; and here he found a zealous coadjutor in the Rev. Mr. Faure, a Dutch clergyman of the town; but when they applied for the governor's permission, without which there was no publishing at the Cape, they were told verbally by a secretary, five weeks after the presentation of their memorial, that his excellency the governor had not seen their application in a favourable light. Pringle then attended to his school, which was the first English academy of any respectability ever established in Africa. It appears that Lord Charles Somerset's style of government was rather too absolute, even for the British ministry of that period. A commission of inquiry was sent out to the Cape, and by the express command of Earl Bathurst Pringle was to be permitted to publish his journal, it being understood, that nothing should be inserted in it "detrimental to the peace and safety of the colony."

"The South African Journal," as this magazine was called, was soon followed by a weekly newspaper, printed and edited by Mr. Greig, a printer, who had recently arrived. Lord Charles established a censorship of the press, and as a power, odious in itself, was not likely to be leniently exercised, the weekly paper was given up. The magazine soon followed the paper in its fall. The second number was published on the seventh of May; on the 8th a warrant for Greig, the printer's, banishment was issued; and on the 13th, Mr. Pringle was violently *rated* by Lord Charles's Fiscal, an officer, who united in himself the functions of attorney-general and superintendent of police. This Fiscal maintained that he had the right of cancelling in proofs whatever he might think proper. Upon this Pringle threw up his magazine, and his place of 75*l.* a-year together. The school remained, but even this could not thrive under the frowns of his excellency the governor; and Pringle, for the nonce, was left a ruined man, with debts upon his shoulders. In 1826, Pringle, with his wife and her sister, arrived in London, to begin a fresh struggle for comfort and independence. And so limited was poor Pringle's ambition, so unexpensive his habits, that a very small thing would have made him a happy man. We never heard him complain of any privation, except that of not being able to afford the London expense of keeping a saddle-horse, for, in spite of his infirmity, he could ride, and take great delight in that exercise, which, moreover, was strongly recommended to him on account of his health. The last time we ever saw him, which was when he was packing up for a fresh voyage to the Cape, he alluded to this privation, and related a conversation he had had with Coleridge, a

short time before that gifted man's death, upon this very subject. "Coleridge," said he, "though he cared not for horses himself, entered with a lively sympathy into my feelings, and then flew off into one of his eloquently metaphysical discourses to explain the difference between real and imaginary wants. But," continued Pringle, his sunken eye brightening at the thought, "when I get to the Cape again I will have something to canter through the glens upon, if it is no better than a wee bit sheltie—I have bought a nice saddle to take with me." Poor fellow! within two or three weeks he was carried to his grave among the crowded streets of London.

It was in October 1826, a few months after his return to England, that Mr. Pringle became secretary to the Anti-slavery Society. In June 1834, the Society, considering its work done, dissolved itself. A day or two after, the excellent secretary sickened, and he died in the month of December of the same year.

The annexed extracts from Mr. Ritchie's memoirs will be read with deep interest, not unmixed with regret—perhaps indignation—against the present ministry, who, after all their proud boasts of a free and judicious distribution of patronage, are found never to have anything to give when the applicant is unsupported by a certain sort of parliamentary interest, and who notoriously have made some of the worst appointments that ever disgraced even a weak and jobbing government.

"On the 27th of June, 1834, a document was published, signed 'Thomas Pringle,' reciting the Act of Abolition, ascribing the honour of the triumph to the Almighty, and calling upon all persons interested in the cause, to devote the approaching 1st of August—the appointed day of manumission—to his service and praise. This was the conclusion of his labours. The best years of his life, the highest energies of his mind, had not been sacrificed in vain. Nature and humanity had triumphed; and he had himself been the organ of declaring to the people that, while rejoicing in their success, the labourers in the holy cause disclaimed the merit, laying down their human pride at the footstool of the God of mercy.

"On the following day he was seized with the illness which terminated his life.

"'I had been the medical attendant,' says Mr. James Kennedy, 'of Mr. Pringle's family during several years, but, up to the commencement of his last illness, Mr. Pringle had not required my assistance for any severe attack. His symptoms were slight, and usually such as are the result of sedentary habits.'

"'The first intimation I had of the commencement of the disease of which he eventually died, was on the 28th day of June, 1834; when I received a note from Mr. Pringle, of which the following is a copy.'

""Highgate, Saturday morning.

""DEAR KENNEDY,

""I must have a little doctoring. Last night, in taking some slight supper, a crumb of bread seemed, as we say, to go down my wrong throat. This induced a violent coughing, and I presume lacerated some small blood-vessel in the lungs, for a little blood—not very much—came up: that soon ceased, but I feel this morning a sensation as if there was a slight abrasion of the part; so I suppose you had better come out and prescribe.

""Truly yours,

""THOMAS PRINGLE."

""When the above accident took place, Mr. Pringle's general health appeared quite good. It had not been preceded by any habitual cough, or change in the state of the pulse, nor was languor or debility complained of, or other symptoms indicating any constitutional tendency to disease. The patient, therefore, very naturally concluded that the accidental circumstance mentioned in his note was the sole cause of his complaint: but, as copious spitting of blood continued to recur at intervals during several days, grounds of suspicion were afforded, in a medical point of view, that organic disease had commenced in the lungs. Subsequent symptoms justified, at an early period, this serious view of the case, for, although the bleeding was per-

manently checked in less than a fortnight, he began soon afterwards to lose flesh and strength, and to suffer from frequent cough, &c.—the ordinary signs of consumption."

" The following letter, written by him a month after this attack of illness, describes his condition and prospects, and brings down the narrative.

" " Highgate, July 29, 1834.

" " In regard to other matters, I am sorry to say that my prospects of the future are more than ever dark and clouded. I have got within these few days an unfavourable reply from Mr. Spring Rice, in regard to my application for an appointment at the Cape. He says, that as great reductions are now making there, those reduced from the government service must have a preferable claim; so that that prospect seems to be shut. Many of the persons who will thus have a preference to me, were amongst the vilest tools of Lord Charles Somerset's administration. But to have been persecuted by a Tory government for maintaining Whig principles, or rather the principles of truth and justice, seems, even under a Whig administration, to operate rather to one's disadvantage than otherwise. In fact, how can it be otherwise—so long as the under-secretaries and clerks are still the persons who determine most of the Colonial appointments, who were put in office by Lord Bathurst, and who, to this hour, act as far as they can on the wretched system of *his* administration? Spring Rice, with the best intentions, coming new into office, must necessarily draw his information from such prejudicial and polluted sources—and thus things go on year after year.

" " If I had now a few hundred pounds I would go out to the Caffer frontier, buy and stock a farm, and settle myself for life in the wilderness. I am tired with the wear and tear of a town life, and struggling with straitened circumstances for ever. Perfect quiet, and happiness, and leisure, is not, I know, to be found in this world; but if the choice must be between utter seclusion, and struggling for subsistence by the *exhausting and precarious wages of literary labour*, I have no hesitation in preferring the latter—if the latter were in my power—which unhappily it is not.

" " But enough of self. After all, I have no doubt that what befalls us (if not by our own fault) is ever for the best; and in that belief, and in a firm trust in God's good providence, I will endeavour to find consolation."

" In order to explain this allusion to Mr. Spring Rice, it is necessary to say that, in anticipation of the breaking up of the Anti-Slavery Society, Pringle had been long engaged in soliciting an appointment at the Cape of Good Hope. In order to explain his views, so consistent with his whole history, I copy a letter which he addressed upon the subject to Lord Brougham a year before.

" " Holly Terrace, Highgate, Aug. 24, 1833.

" " My LORD,

" " Mr. Buxton mentioned to me this morning that your lordship had expressed to him, in the strongest terms, your desire that I should be provided for by some competent appointment; but that you were at a loss to know what would suit me. Honoured and obliged in no ordinary degree by the interest your lordship takes in my welfare, I am thus encouraged to address you personally on this point, and I shall do so as concisely as I can render compatible with the object in view.

" " Your lordship is already aware that I have requested some honoured friends to solicit for me a civil appointment at the Cape of Good Hope. I have directed my views to that colony, partly because I was sensible of the extreme difficulty of obtaining any competent provision in England—particularly for a person like myself, not bred to any of the regular professions. But I have thought of the Cape more especially, because my former residence there, which brought me intimately acquainted with the character and condition of the various classes of the population, gives me (as I imagine) considerable advantages, and emboldens me to cherish the hope of rendering my humble services more extensively useful to my fellow-men in that quarter of the world, than they could probably be anywhere else.

" " I am therefore solicitous to obtain the appointment of resident Magistrate of the new (and still *unnamed*) district upon the frontier of Cafferland.

" " This appointment, should I have the honour to obtain it, will, independently of its strictly official duties, bring me into that sort of relationship with the native African population, which, I flatter myself, would afford most favourable opportunities for promoting the interests of humanity and civilisation, by the encourage-

ment of general instruction, of infant schools, of religious missions, of temperance associations, and other sound practical means, for gradually elevating long-degraded races of men in the moral and intellectual scale of being.

" I shall only further remark, that a resident civil functionary has been for some time very urgently wanted in the remote district I have referred to ; that, in point of fact, imminent peril to the peace of the colony, and manifold acts of cruelty and oppression towards the natives, have been the consequence of its neglect ; that its present state is in entire opposition to the recommendation of his Majesty's Commissioners of Inquiry seven years ago ; and finally, that to these Commissioners (Colonel Colebrooke and Mr. Bigge, both now in England,) I would desire respectfully to refer his Majesty's government in regard to my own conduct in that colony under very critical circumstances, and my competency generally for the important office I have ventured to solicit.

" I have the honour to be, &c. &c.,  
" THOMAS PRINGLE."

Lord Jeffrey, with his usual kindness of heart, seconded this application, which was also backed by Lord Holland, but all was of no avail. On the 14th of September, Doctor Clark, now Sir James, and physician to her Majesty, who has obtained particular eminence by his treatment of diseases of the chest, told the poor sufferer that he could not remain in England the ensuing winter without the greatest risk, and urged him to return to the Cape. " I told him," says Pringle in a letter, " that I was utterly without the means, without funds, without income, except what depended on my pen." Had Sir James Clark been Mr. Spring Rice, we have no doubt whatever that this difficulty would have been removed, but the benevolent physician was not colonial minister as Mr. Spring Rice then was. On the 23rd of October, Pringle received a letter from the colonial office, written by Mr. Spring Rice's private secretary, and telling him that government had neither grant of land, nor place, nor anything else to give him—except a letter of recommendation to Sir Benjamin D'Urban, the new governor of the Cape, who *might* have it in his power to render him assistance if he were once at the Cape. Still strong in hope, Pringle mustered all his narrow means, determined to go to the Cape, and even engaged a passage for himself, his wife, and her sister. But his departure had been delayed till too late in the season—his disease gained rapidly upon him at the approach of winter, and it was soon seen that he must prepare for a longer voyage than from this to the Cape of Storms. He died on the 5th of December, in the forty-sixth year of his age.

These melancholy details have not left us in a humour to speak critically of the beautiful poems collected in the volume, which is published, not in the usual way, but entirely for the benefit of Mr. Pringle's widow.

---

*Summary of Works that we have received, of which we have no space to make a lengthened notice.*

*Granta, or a Page from the Life of a Cantab.*—There are some agreeable verses, and some pleasant touches of wit and humour in this little volume. It is clear that the author is young, and will soon do better things ; there is good promise in him.

*The Prisoners, or Abd-el-kader, or Five Months' Captivity among the Arabs in the Autumn of 1836.* By MONS. A. DE FRANCE. Translated by R. F. PORTER.—Monsieur de France, an officer in the French navy, was noosed by the Arabs on the coast of Algiers, as he was running with a very indiscreet zeal after a plump partridge. He is no great clerk—his ignorance, in many respects, is portentous—and yet, in many respects,

his book is amusing, and not devoid of curious information respecting the habits of the Moors, and the character of Abd-el-kader, who made so gallant a stand against the French army. As if it were unconsciously, Mons. de France relates several things which prove that his countrymen have most unwisely insulted the prejudices of the Mahomedan population, and have not pursued the course likely to procure them a peaceful and durable possession of the country. The translation might have been better done.

*Proverbial Philosophy; a Book of Thoughts and Arguments, originally treated.* By MARTIN FARQUHAR TUPPER, Esq., M.A.—A book like this would make a man's fortune in the east, but we are afraid that philosophy in proverbs has no great chance in the west. We would recommend the author to get it translated into Arabic. Yet we should like to meet him again in English in another style, for many of his thoughts are noble and beautiful.

*The Alternative Disease and Premature Death; or Health and Long Life.* By JOEL PINNEY, Esq.—An unpretending, sensible book, likely to be useful to many persons who will not read, and who could not understand, works of a more professional and scientific character. The remarks upon diet, exercise, and the proper use of the bath, and other essential points, are excellent.

*Trifles for Leisure Hours.* By M. A. T.—“Trifles light as air.”

*The Life of Thomas Chatterton, including his unpublished Poems and Correspondence.* By JOHN DIX.—This little volume contains several things not inserted in any previous life of the “wond'rous boy,” and may be read with pleasure, even by those who are familiar with the many preceding works on the subject. The author vindicates the conduct of poor Chatterton with a generous warmth. There was, indeed, much to say against the heartlessness of the world; but the true excuse for his irregularities, and the real cause of Chatterton's suicide at the age of seventeen, was deep-fixed and hereditary insanity. The misconduct of the poor friendless boy was indeed of a very venial kind; and, as Mr. Dix shows, he had in him some of the most generous qualities of humanity, in addition to his genius, which was truly marvellous. The portrait prefixed is very striking, and the only one which we have ever seen of Chatterton. It tells the boy's character completely.

#### LIST OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Anabasis of Cyrus. Book I. Chaps. I. to VI., with Lexicon. By I. T. V. Hardy. 12mo. 3s. 6d.

Ancient Egyptians, their Manners, &c. By J. G. Wilkinson. 3 vols. 8vo. 31. 3s.

An Atlas adapted to Gaultier's Geography. Folio, 15s.

Arnott on Warming and Ventilating. 8vo. 5s.

Burgh's Tracts for the Church. Feap. 2s. 6d.

Ernest Maltravers. New Edition. 3 vols. post 8vo. 31s. 6d.

Geographical and Historical Questions. By the Abbé Gaultier. Square, 3s.

Heber's Parish Sermons. Third Edition. 2 vols. post 8vo. 16s.

King Henry the Eighth's Scheme of Bishopricks, &c. 8vo. 10s.

The Lord's Prayer Explained. By Mrs. Blackwell. 18mo. 1s. 6d.

Parkinson's Sermons. Third Edition. 2 vols. 12mo. 12s.

The Prisoners of Abd-el-Kader. Translated by R. F. Porter. 12mo. 6s.

Proverbial Philosophy. By M. F. Tupper. 8vo. 7s.

Reading Recreations. 18mo. 4s. 6d.

Retrospect of Western Travel. By H. Martineau. 3 vols. post 8vo. 31s. 6d.

Warner Arundell, the Adventures of a Creole. 3 vols. post 8vo. 31s. 6d.

Woodcock's Laws of the British Colonies in the West Indies. Second edition. 8vo. 8s.

Angell's Historical Sketch of the Royal Exchange. 12mo. 2s. 6d.  
 Cecil's Memoirs of Mrs. Hawkes. New edition. 8vo. 10s. 6d.  
 Cooper's Excursions in Italy. 2 vols. post 8vo. 21s.  
 Kyan on the Elements of Light. Roy. 8vo. 10s.  
 Parker on the Stomach. 8vo. 10s. 6d.  
 The Prose Works of Bishop Ken. Edited by J. T. Round. 8vo. 10s. 6d.  
 A Love Token. By Miss Sedgwick. Fc. 4s.  
 Bethune's Tales and Sketches of Scottish Peasantry. 12mo. 4s.  
 Biallobotzky's Paradigm and Glossary. Fc. 7s. 6d.  
 The Child's Arithmetic. New edition. 12mo. 1s.  
 The Child's Fairy Library. Vol. III. sq. 2s. 6d.  
 The Child's Guide to Knowledge. By a Lady. Eighth edition. 18mo. 3s.  
 Edinburgh Cabinet Atlas of Modern Geography. Royal 4to. 1l. 11s. 6d.  
 Elisha. By F. W. Krummacher, author of "Elijah the Tishbite." 12mo. 6s.  
 Fisher's Select Translations from the Greek Minor Poets. Royal 8vo. 1l. 1s.  
 Fox's Acts and Monuments of the Church, and History of Martyrs. By M. H. Seymour. Royal 8vo. 1l. 1s.  
 Head's Forest Scenes in the Wilds of Canada. Second Edition. Post 8vo. 8s. 6d.  
 Higgin's Philosophy of Sound. 12mo. 6s.  
 Hume's English Songs and Ballads. 12mo. 3s. 6d.  
 Lawrence on Ruptures. 8vo. 16s.  
 Life of Zinzendorf, from the German. By S. Jackson. 8vo. 10s. 6d.

#### LITERARY NEWS.—WORKS IN PROGRESS.

Mr. Bulwer's New Work, "ALICE, OR THE MYSTERIES," a sequel to "ERNEST MALTRavers," may be expected about the 10th or 12th of the month. This will form the completion of the most elaborate and finished work of the kind that has yet been furnished to the world from the pen of its distinguished author. We shall give it our earliest attention.

The "Bit o' Writin, and other Tales," by the O'Hara Family, is now ready, and will form a welcome addition to the former admirable works of the same authors.

The New Novel, entitled, "MORTIMER DELMAR, AND HIGHFIELD TOWER," by the Authoress of "CONRAD BLESSINGTON," is just ready.

"MRS. WILBERFORCE, OR THE WIDOW AND HER ORPHAN," is on the eve of publication.

The Historical Romance of "RUFUS, OR THE RED KING," is nearly completed.

The Author of "Random Recollections of the Lords and Commons" has just committed to the press a new and revised edition of his interesting work "THE GREAT METROPOLIS, FIRST SERIES."

A new Novel is spoken of as in progress from the pen of the Authoress of "The Brides of Sienna."

"Annals of Natural History; or Magazine of Zoology, Botany, and Geology;" with engravings. Conductors—for Zoology, Sir W. Jardine, Bart.; P. J. Selby, Esq., and Dr. Johnstone.—For Botany,—Sir W. J. Hooker, Reg. Prof. Bot. Glasgow.—For General Correspondence,—R. Taylor, Under Sec. Linn. Soc.

"Pyramids of Gizeh." On the practical application of the Quadrature of the Circle in the Configuration of the Great Pyramids of Gizeh, by H. C. Agnew, Esq.

"Gresham College." Three inaugural Lectures, by Mr. Edward Taylor, Gresham Professor of Music.

#### THE COMMERCIAL RELATIONS OF THE COUNTRY.

Considerable activity is expected to prevail in our commercial engagements in the ensuing spring, from the improved state of affairs in America.

The latest intelligence from Canada is of a highly satisfactory character. A meeting of merchants, shipowners, and others, has been held at the City of London Tavern, for the purpose of considering the propriety of memorializing the Lord Mayor and the Gresham Committee to remove the 'Change from Guildhall to the area of the Excise-office, in Broad Street. There were present several of the most influential merchants of the city. Mr. Thomas Wilson, formerly one of the Members for the city, took the chair. A letter was read from Mr. S. Rice, sanctioning the approbation of the area of the Excise Office to the purposes proposed, should the merchants consider the removal of the Exchange from Guildhall would afford facilities to the trade of the city. Some discussion took place as to whether the memorial should be drawn up expressive of the wish of the merchants of London to that effect, but the meeting was informed that to the Gresham Committee, under the will of Sir Thomas Gresham, belonged the duty of providing a place for the assembling of the merchants. A memorial was then laid on the table, signed by many of the principal firms in the city, in favour of the removal of the 'Change to the Excise Office. The memorial, which had been in private circulation for some days, was then unanimously adopted, and ordered to be laid at Lloyd's and other places to receive the names of other merchants favourable to the removal, preparatory to its being presented to the Lord Mayor and the Gresham Committee.

---

#### PRICES OF THE PUBLIC FUNDS,

On Friday, 23rd of February.

ENGLISH STOCKS.

Bank Stock, 205 one half.—Three per Cent. Consols, 92 one-half.—Three per Cent. reduced, 93 one-quarter—Three and a Half per Cent., reduced, 103 one-quarter.—Consols for Account, 92 one-half—Exchequer Bills, 54s. to 56s.—India Bonds, 55s. to 57s. p.

FOREIGN STOCKS

Portuguese Five per Cent. 27 one-half.—Dutch, Two and a Half per Cent., 58 one-half.—Dutch, Five per Cent., 103 one-eighth. Spanish Active Bonds, 19.

MONEY MARKET REPORT. Feb. 23.—Consols fluctuated to-day between 92½ and 93½, at which they closed buyers for money and the account. Bank Stock improved to 205 to ½; India Stock declined to 263½ to 4½; Exchequer Bills were 54s. to 56s.; India Bonds, 55s. to 57s.; and those unmarked 13s. to 14s. premium.

Foreign securities remain almost entirely neglected, and the prices of several were rather on the decline. Spanish Active declined to 18½ to 19; Portuguese 5 per Cents. 27 to ½, the 3 per Cents. 17½ to 18½. Brazilian, 73½ to 4; Mexican, 28½ to 9; Columbian, 26½ to ¾; Dutch 2½ per Cents., 53½ to ½, the 5 per Cents. 102½ to 3½.

The transactions in shares are still extensive, although not so much so as in the last few days. North Midland advanced to 5 premium, although a call of 10*l.* per share has recently been made. It is understood these shares are firmly held. New Brighton were somewhat higher, being 5 premium; Blackwall, 3½ to ½; and Manchester and Birmingham, 1½ to 2½ premium. Eastern countries, ½ to ½; and Bristol and Exeter, 1 to ½, both discount. One of the New York papers, advertizing to the cost incurred by the United States in maintaining neutrality on the Canada frontier, states it to be as follows:—197,000 dollars to pay the 3,000 militia called into service on the northern frontier for three months; 80,000 dollars for travelling from and returning to their homes; 300,000 dollars for the various objects of supply; 15,000 dollars for accoutrements; 7,500 dollars for the surgeon's department; 16,000 for arms and equipage; 60,000 dollars for provisions.

Letters from Pernambuco, received to the 23rd of December inclusive, contain nothing of interest relating to that part of Brazil.

MR. C. H. ADAMS'S *Annual Lectures on Astronomy, at the Queen's Theatre, Haymarket.*

It is with pleasure we have to announce that Mr. C. H. Adams will deliver his Lecture on ASTRONOMY at Her Majesty's Theatre, Italian Opera House, Haymarket, on Friday next, March 2nd, 1838; and on every Wednesday and Friday following, during Lent; also on the Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, in Passion Week. This season the Lectures will be illustrated by an ENTIRELY NEW series of the most splendid TRANSPARENCIES and costly apparatus that has ever been attempted. We feel it our duty again to commend these beautiful and scientific Lectures, so replete with the most valuable instruction and productive of the highest order of pleasure, to the notice of parents and guardians of youth of all classes.

BANKRUPTS.

FROM DEC. 19, 1837, TO JAN. 19, 1838, INCLUSIVE.

*Jan. 23.*—S. Edmunds, Pereevel Street, Northampton Square, provision agent.—A. Hawkins, Chiswell Street, St. Luke's, ironmonger.—T. Dewhurst, Manchester, bookseller.—J. H. Bonn, Spicer Street, Spitalfields, cabinetmaker.—C. V. Smith and R. E. Goulding, Tottenham Court Road, linen drapers.—T. Hellyer, St. John Street, West Smithfield, general tool warehouseman.—J. Corneby, Compton, Southampton, cattle salesman.—W. Green, Sheffield, ironmonger.—R. Stone, Thame, Oxfordshire, carpenter.—J. Smith, Leeds, joiner.—D. Taylor, Wike, Yorkshire, worsted manufacturer.—T. Welden, Leckhampton, Gloucestershire, brickmaker.

*Jan. 26.*—T. Jones, High Street, Shadwell, slopseller.—B. Eyton, Northumberland Street, Strand, navy agent.—S. T. W. Gawthrop, Wakefield, Yorkshire, cornfactor.—J. Smith, J. Bridge, jun., and G. Smith, Sheffield, Yorkshire, stonemasons.—G. Cooper, Daventry, Northamptonshire, carrier.—A. Foster, Batton Hill, Yorkshire, innkeeper.

*Jan. 30.*—R. Archer, Arundel Street, Strand, wine merchant.—E. Curtis, Newman's Court, Lincoln's Inn Fields, tailor.—S. Skinner, Greenham, Berkshire, brewer.—C. Hayes, jun., Liverpool, shipbuilder.—E. Clegg, Waltham, Lancashire, cotton-spinner.—G. Haines, Kilsby, Northamptonshire, grocer.—C. Evans, Spout Lane, Shropshire, corn factor.—W. Fowler, Aston-juxta-Birmingham, Warwickshire, brickmaker.

*Feb. 3.*—W. Tuck, Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire, butcher.—J. James, Southampton Street, Strand, woollen draper.—E. Dodd, Burner's Street, Oxford Street, harp manufacturer.—B. T. Bagny, Derby, money scrivener.—E. Colman, Leicester, ironfounder.—J. Taylor, Liverpool, brewer.—W. Chapman, Birmingham, grocer.—W. C. Holt and W. G. Thomas, King Cross, Yorkshire, ironfounders.—M. Williams, Bontnewydd, Carnarvon, shopkeeper.—J. Quarrell and R. Wright, Cheltenham, bricklayers.—J. Reid, Liverpool, merchant.—R. Macknight, Birmingham, hawker.—T.

Faulkes, Bowbridge, Gloucestershire, coal merchant.

*Feb. 7.*—H. R. D. Dalton, Bolton-le-Moors, Lancashire, distiller.—W. Hirst, Leeds, Yorkshire, cloth manufacturer.—J. Picklesley, Bolton-le-Moors, Lancashire, joiner.—C. H. Metivier, Wotton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire, cloth factor.—T. Roberts, Gillingham, Dorsetshire, cattle dealer.—E. Jones, Swansea, Glamorganshire, linen draper.

*Feb. 10.*—S. Elphick, Rosemary Lane, victualler.—J. Deen, Savile Row, Burlington Gardens.—J. H. Russell, Burton Street, tailor.—G. Birley, Worcester, perfumer.—T. W. Atkinson, Manchester, architect.—W. Appleyard, Clayton Heights, Yorkshire, manufacturer.—J. Radcliff, Little Smeaton, Yorkshire, miller.—G. Coates, Hunton, Yorkshire, innkeeper.—T. Moseley, Macclesfield, Cheshire, coach proprietor.

*Feb. 14.*—J. and J. Watson, Crawford Street, Bryanston Square, linen drapers.—J. Inglis, Basinghall Street, merchant.—E. Dyball, Norwich, gunmaker.—J. Moore and E. Raisbeck, Thornhill Lees Forge, Dewsbury, Yorkshire, ironfounders.—J. T. Twells, Tamworth, Staffordshire, draper.—T. Jenkins, Brecon, Breconshire, malster.—H. H. Cooper, West Bromwich, Staffordshire, retailer of beer.—F. Deakin, Birmingham, timber merchant.—P. Woodley, Ross, Herefordshire, tailor.—H. R. Warren, Liverpool, common brewer.—F. Parker, Northampton, upholsterer.

*Feb. 17.*—I. Jerom, Montague Mews, Montague Square, livery stablekeeper.—T. L. Holt, jun., Crane Court, Fleet Street, printer.—J. Chittenden, jun., Three Tuns Court, Southwark, hop factor.—J. Howell, Worcester, corn dealer.—W. Spence, Leeds, corn miller.—T. A. Sanders, Ryde, Isle of Wight, builder.—J. Sisley, Margate, carpenter.—C. Lear, Exeter, innkeeper.—F. Baldey, Brighton, bookseller.—R. Grover, Brighton, cabinet maker.—W. Coles, Taunton, Somersetshire, shopkeeper.

## NEW PATENTS.

**W. K. Izon**, of Cambridge, for improvements applicable to steam-engines. January 4th, 6 months.

**H. W. Nunn**, of Whippenham, in the Isle Wight, Lace Manufacturer, for improvements in the manufacture, and in the making, or producing, of certain descriptions of lace and other ornamental fabrics. January 4th, 6 months.

**N. Worsdell**, of Cromer Street, Liverpool, Coach Builder, for improvements in apparatus to facilitate the conveyance of mail-bags and other parcels, on railways or roads. January 4th, 6 months.

**B. Woodcroft**, of Mumps, in the township of Oldham, Lancashire, Gentleman, for improvements in the construction of looms for weaving various sorts of cloths, which looms may be set in motion by any adequate power. January 4th, 6 months.

**J. Richardson**, of Hutton, in the parish of Rudley, Yorkshire, for certain improvements in the method of covering buildings. January 4th, 6 months.

**C. Watt**, of Manchester, Lancashire, Lecturer on Chemistry, and **T. R. Tebbutt**, of the same place, Merchant, for certain improvements in the manufacture of the oxides of lead, and also of the carbonate of lead. January 5th, 6 months.

**W. Wells**, of Manchester, Lancashire, Machine Maker, and **S. Eccles**, of the same place, Merchant, for certain improvements in power-looms, and in hand-looms, for weaving plain and figured fabrics. January 5th, 6 months.

**C. Fitten**, Woollen Manufacturer, and **G. Collier**, Mechanic, both of Cumberworth-Half, near Wakefield, Yorkshire, for improvements in power-looms. January 11th, 6 months.

**J. Thornhill**, of Ison Green, Nottinghamshire, Lace Maker, for improvements in the manufacture of lace. January 11th, 6 months.

**J. Edwards**, of Lincoln's Inn Fields, Middlesex, Pen Maker, for improvements in instruments used in writing. January 11th, 6 months.

**H. F. Bacon**, of Fen Drayton, Cambridgeshire, Clerk, for an improved apparatus for regulating the flow or supply of gas through pipes to gas-burners, with a view to uniformity of supply. January 11th, 6 months.

**W. Soulham**, of Ditchford Mills, in the parish of Irchester, Nottinghamshire, Miller, for an improved apparatus or machine for drying corn and other grains and seeds. January 11th, 6 months.

**C. Watt**, of Manchester, Lancashire, Lecturer on Chemistry, and **T. R. Tebbutt**, of the same place, Merchant, for certain improvements in the manufacture of the hydrate and carbonate of soda, from the chloride of sodium, applicable to the making of soap, glass, and other useful purposes. January 11th, 6 months.

**R. Bright**, of Bruton Street, Berkeley Square, Middlesex, Lamp Manufacturer, for a new or improved apparatus or contrivance, for effecting the more complete combustion of candles, and superseding the necessity of snuffing. January 13th, 6 months.

**E. Davy**, of Fordton, near Crediton, Devonshire, Merchant, for improvements in saddles and harness for horses, and in seats for carriages. January 13th, 6 months.

**C. Barnard**, of the city of Norwich, Norfolk, Ironmonger, for an improved mangle. January 13th, 6 months.

**G. Chapman**, of Whitby, Yorkshire, for certain improvements in steam-engines. January 13th, 6 months.

**H. Hewitt**, of No. 5, Stockwell Common, Surrey, Gentleman, for a new or improved chemical compound or medicine to be used in the form of pills, for the cure or amelioration of sciatica, rheumatism and gout, lumbago, ague, and other diseases of a similar nature. January 18th, 6 months.

**J. A. Tarner**, of No. 2, Henry Street, Liverpool, Lancashire, Architect, for an improved method of propelling vessels through water. January 18th, 6 months.

**L. Barton**, of Arnold, Nottinghamshire, Frame Smith, for certain improvements, in machinery for frame-work knitting. January 20th, 6 months.

**F. O. Ward**, of Camberwell, Surrey, Medical Student, for an improvement or improvements in clothes and other brushes. January 20th, 6 months.

**A. Ador**, of Leicester Square, Middlesex, Chemist, for certain improvements in producing or obtaining motive power. January 20th, 6 months.

**H. G. James**, of Lower Thames Street, London, Wine Merchant, for an improvement in making bread. Communicated by a foreigner residing abroad. January 23rd, 6 months.

**T. Hancock**, of Goswell Mews, Middlesex, Patent Waterproof Cloth Manufacturer, for improvements in the method of manufacturing or preparing caoutchouc either alone or in combination with other substances. January 23rd, 6 months.

**R. Garton**, of Beverley, Yorkshire, Millwright, for improvements in presses January 25th, 6 months.

**F. C. Parry**, of Brompton, Middlesex, and Charles De Laveleye, of King's Head Court, London, Engineer, for improvements in the manufacture of bricks. Communicated by a foreigner residing abroad. January 25th, 6 months.

**C. Hancock**, of Grosvenor Place, Hyde Park, Middlesex, Animal Painter, for certain improved means of producing figured surfaces, sunk and in relief, and of printing therefrom, and also of moulding, stamping, and embossing. January 25th, 6 months.

### MONTHLY METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL.

Kept at Edmonton. Latitude 51° 37' 32" N. Longitude 3° 51" West of Greenwich.

The mode of keeping these registries is as follows:—At Edmonton, the warmth of the day is observed by means of a thermometer exposed to the north in the shade, standing about four feet above the surface of the ground. The extreme cold of the night is ascertained by a horizontal self-registering thermometer in a similar situation. The daily range of the barometer and thermometer is known from observations made at intervals of four hours each, from eight in the morning till the same time in the evening. The weather and the direction of the wind are the result of the most frequent observations. The rain is measured every morning at eight o'clock.

1838.	Range of Ther.	Range of Barom.	Prevailing Winds.	Rain in Inches	Prevailing Weather.
Jan.					
23	37-24	29,68-29,64	S.E.		Generally cloudy.
24	27-19	29,68-29,64	N.E.		Cloudy.
25	29-19,5	29,54-29,42	N.E.		Cloudy.
26	31-21	29,33-29,35	N.E.		Cloudy.
27	31-24	29,26 Stat.	N.E.		Cloudy.
28	33-23	29,43-29,35	N.E.		Cloudy, sleet in the evening. [the morn.
29	43-27	29,52-29,43	S.E.		Afternoon clear, otherwise cloudy, a little rain in
30	37-28	29,61-29,55	N.E.	.0375	Cloudy, rain at times.
31	35-29	29,84-29,68	N.E.	.0125	Cloudy, rain at times.
Feb.					
1	33-28	30,07-29,96	N.E.		Cloudy, a little rain in the afternoon.
2	35-21	30,25-30,19	N.E.		Morning cloudy, otherwise clear.
3	35-20	30,27 Stat.	N.E.		Generally clear, a little snow in the afternoon.
4	31-29	30,26-30,23	N.E.		Generally clear. [afternoon.
5	35-19	30,19 30,12	N.E.		Morning clear, otherwise cloudy, snow in the
6	33-21	30,01-29,75	N.E.		Gen. clear, except the even. cloudy, with hail.
7	42-27	29,53-29,25	S.E.	.275	Cloudy, rain in the morning and evening.
8	47-38	29,08-28,94	S.E.	.075	Morn. clear, otherwise cloudy, with frequent rain.
9	43-31	28,65-28,98	S.W.	.1375	Cloudy, rain at times.
10	35-24	29,12 Stat.	N.E.		Cloudy.
11	34-19	29,48-29,25	N.W.		Generally clear.
12	33-15	29,52 29,51	S.		Generally clear.
13	34-12	29,50 Stat.	N.E.		Generally clear, a little snow in the evening.
14	36-11	29,57 Stat.	N.E.		Generally clear.
15	31-22	29,62-29,52	E. b. N.		Cloudy.
16	34-22	29,55-29,50	E. b. N.		Morning clear, otherwise cloudy, wind boisterous.
17	36-22	29,82-29,63	E. b. N.		Cloudy, snow and hail accompanied with rain at
18	39-26	30,09 29,94	N.		Cloudy. [times during the day.
19	39-27	30,09-29,87	N. b. E.		Generally cloudy.
20	39-19	29,69-29,63	N.E.		Morning clear, otherwise cloudy.
21	37-28	29,66-29,63	N.E.	.1375	Cloudy, rain in the morning and evening.
22	37-28	29,66-29,80	N.E.		Cloudy, rain in the evening.

Edmonton.

CHARLES HENRY ADAMS.

## HISTORICAL REGISTER.

POLITICAL JOURNAL.—FEBRUARY, 1838.

HOUSE OF LORDS, Jan. 16.—After the presentation of two or three petitions, Lord Glenelg laid on the table a continuation of the papers relating to Canada; and, after submitting to their Lordships the propriety of not entering on the subject immediately—though he was then prepared to do so—gave notice that on Thursday he would move an Address to the Throne on the affairs of Canada.—The Duke of Wellington expressed his regret that Ministers had not thought fit to call their Lordships' attention to this important subject by a Royal Message, as the most solemn mode on an occasion of a more than usually serious nature.—Lord Melbourne admitted that a Message from the Throne, in the first instance, might have given greater solemnity and weight to their proceedings on this occasion, but now there would be a difficulty in adopting that course.—Adjourned till Thursday.

Jan. 18.—Lord Melbourne moved the second reading of the Duchess of Kent's Annuity Bill. Not apprehending any opposition to it, he avowedly abstained from making any remarks.—Lord Brougham said he should not offer any further objection to the Bill; he had stated all that he had to express on the subject. The Bill was accordingly read the second time.—Lord Glenelg then rose to move an Address to Her Majesty regarding the affairs of Canada. His Lordship entered into considerable details, and contended that, instead of taking part with the French or British parties, the government had adopted the true course, that of proceeding to remedy real and acknowledged grievances, and to examine alleged ones.—Lord Brougham commenced a speech of three hours' duration, by saying that it seemed never to have struck his Noble Friend that when a minister of the crown came to Parliament with a proposition, not only such as was contained in this Address, but which gave them also notice of measures about to be proposed, following the Address, of a high prerogative and constitutional kind, it never seemed to have struck his Noble Friend that the minister who came to Parliament, resorting to it for such extraordinary remedies, had any other thing to do besides showing that the measure had been rendered necessary—that he had to explain the course of conduct out of which that necessity arose; that he had to defend himself and the ministry, of which he was part and parcel, for having brought our colonial affairs into such a state.—Lord Melbourne said that the course pursued by the government was defensible on every ground; that every effort would continue to be made to suppress revolt, at the same time justice would be done to the colonies. The Noble Viscount went over the principal arguments of his Noble and Learned Friend, and showed that the policy adopted by ministers was the only one that could have been followed up with beneficial results.—The Duke of Wellington objected to the mode in which the question had been brought before the House. He would not oppose the proposed Address to the Crown, but he begged to guard against the supposition that he approved of the intended policy of Government. He would certainly support the Government in any measure they might bring in as the consequence of that Address, and which had for its object the support of the authority of the Crown, and which was calculated to restore tranquillity and give a solid and lasting peace to the people of Canada.—The Earl of Durham spoke in the course of the debate, and declared the reluctance with which he had undertaken the responsible office assigned to him. He disclaimed all party spirit, and appealed to his zeal for the interests of the Crown and the country as the motives that influenced his choice. His objects would be to establish the authority of the Crown, to enforce the laws, and, having done so, to redress the grievances of the Canadians wherever they were found to exist. And stated that he should deem no personal sacrifice too great to accomplish the purpose of his mission.—After some remarks from the Earl of Fitzwilliam, Lord Wharncliffe, &c., and Lord Glenelg, briefly in reply, the Address was agreed to and their Lordships adjourned.

Jan. 19.—The Duke of Richmond presented a petition from forty-three acting magistrates of the county of Sussex, praying for an amendment of the law, so as to secure a more summary trial of petty and juvenile offenders.—The Duchess of Kent's Annuity Bill passed through Committee without amendment, was reported, and ordered for a third reading on Monday, till which day their Lordships adjourned.

Jan. 22.—The Duke of Argyle said that, in obedience to their Lordships' commands, he had had the honour of waiting upon Her Majesty with their Address and had

received a most gracious answer.—Lord Brougham presented petitions from various places on the subject of Canada, education, post-office reform, and vote by ballot.

Jan. 23.—The Duchess of Kent's Annuity Bill was read a third time, and passed.—Lord Brougham and Lord Denman severally presented petitions on the subject of West India slavery.

Jan. 26.—The Royal Assent was given, by commission, to the Duchess of Kent's Annuity Bill and one private bill. Their Lordships then adjourned till Monday.

Jan. 29.—Lord Melbourne, in reply to a question by the Duke of Wellington, said that as the Canada Bill would probably be brought up from the Commons either on Wednesday or Thursday, he thought it would be advisable to fix the second reading for Friday. Several petitions were presented. Lord Brougham presented one from Leeds, signed by nearly 17,000 persons. It prayed that negro slavery in the form it now exists, of indentured apprenticeship, should be brought as speedily as possible to a termination, and claimed from their Lordships to fix the period at the 1st of August, 1838.

Jan. 31.—Mr. Bernal presented from the Commons the "Lower Canada Government Bill."—On the motion of Lord Glenelg, it was read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time on Friday next, and to be printed.

Feb. 1.—Lord Brougham presented a petition from Mr. Roebuck, praying, as agent of the legislative assembly of Lower Canada, to be heard at the bar of their Lordships' house against the Canada Government Bill.

Feb. 2.—Notice was given by the Earl of Ripon that on Friday next he would move the second reading of the Bishopric of Sodor and Man Bill.—Lord Glenelg then, in a speech of considerable length, moved the second reading of the Lower Canada Government Bill.—The Earl of Aberdeen followed, and, in reviewing the whole question, commented with much severity upon the blunders of our colonial policy.—Lord Brougham, with much bitterness of style, commented upon that policy which originated in the Whig councils here, and was perfected and "carried out" in Canada.—Lord Melbourne replied to Lord Brougham, adducing new facts and arguments in addition to such as he had already used on the subject of Canada, in justification of the policy of his government.—The Duke of Wellington took a review of the whole question with the comprehensiveness that is so remarkable a character in his style; but commented especially on the ministerial instructions to the Earl of Durham. His grace maintained that the Lower House of Assembly was the real aggressor in the present dispute—the Lower Canadian House of Assembly was the real promoter of revolution.—The bill was read a second time.—On the motion of Lord Brougham, it was ordered that on Monday Mr. Roebuck should be heard at the bar against the bill, without reference to the validity or otherwise of his appointment as agent for Lower Canada. Their Lordships then adjourned.

Feb. 5.—On the motion of Lord Brougham, Mr. Roebuck was called in, and addressed their Lordships against the Lower Canada Government Bill. Mr. Roebuck commenced by characterising the Canada Bill as a Bill of Pains and Penalties, and defended the conduct of the Assembly of Lower Canada, in consequence of its being approved of by the unanimous voice of their constituents. He then repeated nearly the same arguments that he had previously used at the bar of the House of Commons.

Feb. 6.—Nothing of importance.

Feb. 8.—Lord Glenelg moved the third reading of the Canada Government Bill, which again called forth considerable discussion.—Lord Ellenborough resisted the bill as unnecessarily severe.—Lord Glenelg contended that it was unavoidable.—The bill passed.—Their Lordships then adjourned.

Feb. 9.—The Lower Canada Government Bill was brought up from the Commons, with their Lordships' amendments agreed to. The second reading of the Bishopric of Sodor and Man Bill was postponed till the 29th inst., on the suggestion of the Archbishop of Canterbury, who stated that he had a communication to make to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, which he hoped would tend to a satisfactory arrangement of the question.

Feb. 12.—Lord Brougham gave notice that on Monday next he would bring the whole subject of slavery and the slave trade under the consideration of their Lordships.

Feb. 13.—Mr. Bernal and others from the House of Commons brought up the Joint Stock Bank Companies Amendment Bill.—Lord Ellenborough said it might be very necessary this bill should pass, but it brought matters of a very serious nature under their Lordship's consideration.—The Lord Chancellor said that their Lordships had the fact before them that the Court of Exchequer had decided that the

fact of any clergyman being a member of those joint-stock establishments rendered such establishments invalid. If such a circumstance were to affect these joint-stock companies, or banking concerns, so as to render them invalid, the House would readily perceive the extent of mischief that must accrue to society if this bill did not pass. He hoped their Lordships would at once, therefore, let the bill proceed.—The bill was then read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time on Thursday.

Feb. 15.—An arrangement took place between the Earl of Ripon and Lord Brougham, in consequence of which the noble earl postponed the second reading of the Bishopric of Sodor and Man Bill from Tuesday to Thursday of next week; and the noble and learned lord deferred the slavery question from Monday to Tuesday. The Banking (clerical) Co-partnership Bill was read a second time, after which their Lordships adjourned.

Feb. 16.—The Earl of Aberdeen inquired whether it was the intention of her Majesty's ministers to propose any measure for extending religious instruction in Scotland.—Viscount Melbourne answered, that the subject was still under the consideration of her Majesty's ministers.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Jan. 16.—Lord John Russell moved the Address to her Majesty on the affairs of Canada.—After an animated discussion, Mr. Leader moved the adjournment of the debate, which was seconded by Mr. Baines, but opposed by Lord John Russell. A division then took place.—For the adjournment, 28; against it, 188.—The Noble Lord then gave notice that he would on Wednesday move for leave to bring in a Bill to provide for the temporary government of Lower Canada.—Adjourned.

Jan. 17.—Lord John Russell stated that Her Majesty had been waited upon by such members of that House as were Privy Councillors with the address, to which she had been pleased to return a most gracious answer. In reply to Mr. Lucas, Lord Morpeth said the second reading of the Irish Poor Law Bill would be moved on the 6th of February. Lord J. Russell then moved for leave to bring in a bill to make temporary provision for the government of Lower Canada. A long and desultory discussion ensued. Mr. Henry George Ward, though he had opposed the resolutions of the last Parliament, approved the present policy of the Government, to which "he gave an unequivocal adhesion in all its parts."—Mr. Warburton read a lesson to her Majesty's troops on the mode of carrying on war, and philosophically recommended a separation of our North American colonies from the mother-country.—Mr. Clay regretted that his hon. friend, Mr. Warburton, had palliated the revolt, which was wholly without excuse or justification.—Sir Robert Peel would not oppose the bringing in of the bill, but showed very forcibly the mischiefs contained in some parts of the ministerial scheme, as detailed by Lord John Russell. The House then divided—for giving leave to bring in the Bill, 198; against it, 7. The Bill was subsequently read a first time, and the second reading fixed for Monday next. A great many papers on the subject of Canada were then moved for by Mr. Hume, some of which were granted, and some refused, by a majority of 61 to 13.—Mr. Grote presented a petition from John Arthur Roebuck, praying, as agent to the Lower House of Assembly, Lower Canada, to be heard at the bar of the House against the bill for suspending that Assembly, &c.—The petition was read at length; and Lord J. Russell consented to afford an opportunity for moving on Monday, that Mr. Roebuck be heard at the bar previous to his moving the second reading of the bill.—The House then adjourned till Monday.

Jan. 22.—Several petitions were presented: among which were some relating to Canada, and one, by Mr. Wakley, praying for a free pardon to the Glasgow cotton-spinners lately convicted at Edinburgh.—Sir Robert Peel gave notice that when the Lower Canada Bill should be in committee he would move the omission of such parts of it as recognized a representative character in the proposed convention of estates, as well as of the clause enabling the Queen in Council to repeal the bill. A long conversation took place on the propriety of acknowledging Mr. Roebuck as agent for Lower Canada, but the objections were not pressed; and after the bill had been read a second time that gentleman was called in, and addressed the House for two hours and a half. Mr. Roebuck having withdrawn, Lord John Russell moved that the bill be committed.—Mr. Hume moved, as an amendment, that it should be committed that day six months.—Sir G. Grey should offer his most determined opposition to the motion of the hon. member for Kilkenny.—Sir William Molesworth moved an adjournment of the debate, which was agreed to.

Jan. 23.—The adjourned debate on the Lower Canada Bill was resumed.—Sir William Molesworth addressed the house at great length against the bill, and was

followed by Mr. Smith O'Brien, who supported the ministerial measure one moment, and abused the ministers the next.—Mr. Bulwer supported the bill.—Sir Edward Sugden in the course of his address said that he would agree to the passing of the bill as the only mode of saving a constitution for the people of Canada.—Mr. Rice adopted the approval of Lord Gosford's policy in the broadest terms, and took credit to ministers that the charge against them was not for too much precipitation, but for too much forbearance.—Sir Robert Peel then rose and went at large into the several questions connected with the bill. He deemed the justification of the measure to consist not so much in the revolt, as in the simple fact, that for five years the Canadian Assembly had now withheld the funds required for carrying on the government; employing their power of refusal, not as a means of accomplishing some constitutional end, but as a means of rescinding the very constitution itself.—Lord John Russell replied, and protested against sending out Lord Durham in any other than a plenipotentiary character. The House then divided—For going into committee, 262; for Mr. Hume's amendment, that the committal be postponed for six months, 16. On the motion of the Noble Lord an adjournment till Thursday was agreed to.

Jan. 25.—A petition, presented by Mr. Wakley, having reference to the Glasgow cotton-spinners lately convicted at Edinburgh, was withdrawn for the present, after considerable discussion, in the course of which a general feeling was expressed that it was very disrespectful in its language. As soon as the order of the day had been read for going into committee on the Lower Canada Government Bill, Lord John Russell stated that, as several verbal alterations had been made in the bill, he thought it should be merely committed *pro forma*, and then reprinted for the use of the members.—Sir R. Peel expressed his surprise at the delay thus incurred, in direct violation of the Noble Lord's former announcement that the bill should be proceeded with *de die in diem*.—Mr. Edward Ellice urged on ministers the importance of unanimity in the House, as giving greater weight to their measures in the estimation of the Canadians, and suggested some arrangement by which a division on the wording of the preamble of the bill might be avoided.—Lord John Russell declared that he would consent to no such alteration of the preamble.

Jan. 26.—The House having gone into committee on the Government of Canada Bill, Lord John Russell said that ministers having that day deliberated on the subject, had come to a decision that the matter was not of such importance as absolutely to require resistance, and had, accordingly, resolved to give way. But he contended that, when the preamble should have been remodelled by the omission of the recitals touching the method of proceeding to prepare a new constitution for the Canadas, though something in the nature of a local convention, which method ministers had now, on their own responsibility, instructed the Governor to adopt, it would be the duty of the opposition, if they objected to the execution of that principle under instructions from the Crown, to declare themselves, beforehand, by moving some resolution which should express a Parliamentary disapproval of the policy of consulting the Canadians upon the construction of their own charter.—Sir Robert Peel received the announcement of the change of purpose of the ministry with as much of scorn as can consist with the decorum of debate; and, in a powerful address, denied their right to call for any expression, *à priori*, of the judgment of the House of Commons upon the ministerial instructions of the Governor, from which a selection of passages had in the morning been printed and distributed. Why were these instructions thus prematurely framed and given out? The very latest information should be brought to bear on such a subject—the knowledge to be derived from the very last despatches which might precede the Governor's departure. That departure was not to take place till April; yet the instructions were ready written and printed in January.—The committee then proceeded with the bill, clause by clause, which was ordered to be reported on Saturday, and to take a further stage on Monday.

Jan. 29.—On the motion of Lord John Russell it was agreed that the House, at its rising, should adjourn till Friday. The order of the day having been read for the third reading of the Lower Canada Government Bill, Mr. Hume moved, as an amendment, that the bill should be read a third time that day six months.—After a discussion of some length, in which Mr. Grote and Mr. Warburton took a prominent part, the House divided—for the third reading of the bill, 110; against it, 8. The bill was then read a third time and passed, and the House adjourned till Friday.

Feb. 2.—Lord Palmerston, in answer to questions from Sir R. Inglis, said, that with regard to the Caroline, no official accounts had been received at the Colonial Office, and nothing on the subject was known except what had appeared in the American newspapers.—The Benefices' Plurality Bill was read a second time and

ordered to be committed on Monday, the 19th inst. The Irish Municipal Corporations Bill was read a second time and ordered to be committed on Monday fortnight; but Lord John Russell intimated that he would give the Irish Poor Law Bill precedence, and defer the discussion of the Municipal Bill till the Poor Law Bill should be disposed of.

Feb. 5.—The Irish Poor Law Bill was read a second time without opposition, beyond an intimation from Mr. O'Connell that, on the motion for committing the bill, he would move the committal that day six months. On the motion for going into Committee on the Parliamentary Electors' Bill, Mr. Hodgson Hinde moved, as an amendment, that it be an instruction to divide the bill into two. The House divided—for the amendment, 68; against it, 158.—In the committee, Mr. T. Duncombe moved his promised amendment, the object of which was virtually to get rid of the rate-paying clause of the Reform Bill. In the course of the discussion which followed, a little skirmish ensued between Sir Edward Sugden and Mr. O'Connell, in consequence of the right hon. gentleman having said, with reference to the Reform Act, that, as a Conservative, he thought it his duty to obey the law, though possibly the hon. member for Dublin might not agree with him on this point.—Mr. O'Connell said it was a curious specimen of Conservatism to recommend the support of a bad law, which hon. gentlemen opposite formerly so vehemently protested against.—For the motion, 206; for the amendment, 107; majority, 99.—The Qualification of Members' Bill was read a second time and the committee fixed for Thursday.

Feb. 6.—The Chancellor obtained leave to bring in a bill, retrospective in its operation, to alter the law as at present existing in reference to clerical members of joint-stock companies.

Feb. 7.—Nothing of public interest.

Feb. 8.—The Chancellor of the Exchequer stated that it was the intention to move for the revival of the church rates and church leases committee, to proceed on its recommendation, should any be proposed, and be warranted in the opinion of the government by the contents of the committee's report.—Mr. Hume moved for various returns regarding the conduct of Sir F. Head, as Governor of Upper Canada, giving the sanction to bills without communicating them to the British Parliament, and other papers, which were ordered.—Lord J. Russell said that the Canadas Government Bill had been sent down from the Lords with one amendment, which was to the effect that all members of the Legislative and Executive Councils should take the oath of allegiance prescribed by the Act of 1791, before they were eligible to discharge the functions of their offices. The amendment was read and agreed to and the house adjourned.

Feb. 9.—The House was occupied for a considerable length of time with a debate upon the motion for going into Committee on the Irish Poor Law Bill. Mr. O'Connell moved that the Bill be committed "this day six months." This amendment was negatived by 277 to 25. The Bill went through Committee *pro forma*, and the chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

Feb. 12.—A new writ was moved, by Lord Granville Somerset, for the Pembroke boroughs, in the place of Colonel Owen, who has accepted the Chiltern Hundreds. Some slight interruption to the proceedings arose in consequence of the noise which prevailed whilst the gas-lights outside of the inner ceiling were being lighted, according to the principle of the experiment which was first made on Saturday night. The effect appeared to give great satisfaction to the members. After a preliminary discussion, the House went into committee on the Irish Poor Law Bill. The clauses, up to fifteen inclusive, were ultimately agreed to, after a division on the first, and one on the twelfth clause. In the former an amendment by Mr. O'Connell was honoured by the support of a minority of 23. The House having resumed, immediately went into a committee of ways and means. Some routine votes were agreed to, and the House again resumed, and adjourned.

Feb. 13.—The House met an hour earlier than usual, in order to ballot for Committees to try the merits of the elections for Belfast and Petersfield, the petition against the return for Bridgenorth having been withdrawn.—Mr. Wakley, after presenting petitions in favour of the Glasgow convicts, brought forward his motion on the subject. The hon. Member inveighed against the course pursued by the prosecution.—The Lord Advocate entered into a statement of the facts of the case, which left no doubt remaining of the perfect propriety of the verdict against the Glasgow conspirators.—Mr. Rice moved an amendment that a committee be appointed to inquire generally into the conduct of masters and workmen since the repeal of the combination laws, which was agreed to.